JACK BRAND PILSENER
BREWED FROM THE FINEST ENGLISH HOPS.
BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.
B. SMYTH & CO. LTD.,
SOLE AGENTS IN INDIA.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,840—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY:—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

ESTABLISHED 1818.
PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE, WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

SATURDAY, 3 P.M.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	1900.
* ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd Feb.
M. L. CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. London	10th "
* CALEDONIA	7358	E. H. Gordon	17th "
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	24th "
* PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	3rd Mar.
M. L. CALEDONIA	7536	E. H. Gordon	10th "
* EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	17th "
M. L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	24th "
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	31st "
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	7th April,
* SHANNON	4362	J. Chellew	14th "
M. L. CHINA	7899	T. S. Angus	21st "
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	28th "
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	5th May.
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. London	12th "
M. L. CALEDONIA	7358	E. H. Gordon	19th "

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attntieon is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports on route.

For further particulars apply to,

F. C. ALLEN,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th December, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on
* IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,213	1st Feb. 1900.
IMPERATOR	G. Klausberger	4,140	1st Mar. 1900.
IMPERATRIX	G. Nicolich	4,213	1st April. 1900.

* She will call at Karachi.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600.	Rs. 325.	Rs. 150.

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on or about
* GISELA	F. Moses	4,253	15th Feb., 1900.
TRIESTE	A. Mitis	5,095	7th March, 1900.
FRANZ FERDINAND	G. Morovich	6,044	7th April, 1900.

* She will not call at Karachi.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 960.	Rs. 575.
Available for 12 months	" 1,060.	" 635.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE transhp at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
MARIA VALERIE	A. Fellner	4,235	25th Feb. 1900.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage, &c., apply to,

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 2, Church Gate Street, Bombay, 28th Jan. 1900

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,
GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND *via* JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents: GRINDLAY & CO

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.
THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.
CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued, allowing breaks of Journey at all places of Interest.
PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.
REDUCED RATES to Railway Family employes, Parties and Missionaries.
OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.
HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.
REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.
HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured.
LIFE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies issued.
CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.
DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.
SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied, CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.
DEPOSITS received. Rate of interest on application.
INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.
Hand book of information free on application.
BOMBAY: 13, Esplanade Road.
CALCUTTA, Old Court House Street.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED,

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows:—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 2nd February, at 2 p. m., or later on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "ASSYRIA," 1,495 tons, on the 6th February, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie, (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF

S. S. "KILWA," 1,552 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 1st February, calling at Kurrachee, Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Bareb, in the foregoing or any order, (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "SIRSA," 2,610 tons, on or about 23rd February.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "GOA," 1,903 tons, on or about 9th February.

FOR COAST PORTS AND CALCUTTA.

S. S. "MERKARA," 3,099 tons, on or about 6th February.

FOR MANILA.

A THREE-WEEKLY direct service has been started from Calcutta to Manila, calling at Rangoon, Penang and Singapore. Rates for Passengers and Cargo, and dates of sailing can be obtained from the Undersigned.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 31st January, 1900.

KING, KING & CO.

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.

PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.

VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on THURSDAY.
CALEDONIEN	4,232	Bouesrd	15th Feb. 1900.
INDUS	6,300	Chevalier	15th March, 1900.
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	12th April, 1900.
YARRA	4,255	X	10th May, 1900.
ERNEST SIMONS	5,707	Durrande	7th June 1900.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

S. S. "TONKIN," 6,300 tons, Captain Vaquier, to sail on or about the 7th February, 1900. For weekly departures thereafter.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to,

C. RUINAT, Agent.
New-Oriental Bank Buildings, 57, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

EASTERN EXPRESS.

SPECIALLY organized for the conveyance of packages, between India and the United Kingdom at a through rate, inclusive of all charges except Insurance and duty.

Parcels, without limit of weight, are conveyed from Bombay or Karachi to any Railway Station in the United Kingdom at

6 annas per pound.

Parcels are conveyed to the Ports of London and Liverpool only at the rate of

3 annas per pound.

For large parcels and packages Messrs. LATHAM & Co. recommend their established and well-known

HOME EXPRESS,

as being the most economical and comprehensive mode of despatch. Full particulars of which will be furnished on application.

CARGO SHIPMENTS undertaken at especially reduced rates by Mail, Regular Lines, and Cargo Steamers, particulars of Sailing of which can be obtained from Messrs. Latham & Co.'s Monthly Shipping Circular, or by application.

INDO-AMERICAN EXPRESS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. have also completed arrangements enabling them to accept Parcels for transmission to New York at the rate of

Rs. 2 per cubic foot,

Inclusive of Freight and all Shipping Charges.

Particulars as to free delivery charges in New York and parcel rates to any interior town of the United States to be had on application.

LATHAM & Co.,
Shipping and Forwarding Agents.
BOMBAY: Esplanade Road. KARACHI: Bunder Road.
Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by
GEO. W. WHEATLEY & CO.

WM. HUTCHINSON and Co., East India Merchants and Agents, undertake all Agency business, 1, Trafalgar Buildings Charing Cross, London.

FILTERS.
CHEAVIN'S MICROBE-PROOF FILTERS

EFFECTUALLY and Continuously remove all Microbes and Disease Germs from Water, and are a certain Preventative of Cholera, Typhoid, etc.

In Nicely Decorated Stoneware, and Fitted with a Silver-Plated Tap, Rs. 16 to Rs. 25, Cash.

MICROBE-PROOF PRESSURE FILTERS.

A Combination of the Idiocathartes Filter and the Porous Tube System, Rs. 25 and Rs. 39, Cash.

GEORGE CHEAVIN'S NEW PATENT "IDIOCATHARTES" REMOVABLE PLATE WATER FILTER

Is constructed on the Most Scientific Principles, differing in its construction and arrangements from all other Filters. The New Patent Idiocathartes Removable Plate Filter is simplicity itself, easy to manage, and under perfected control, while its deodorising and purifying powers are much greater than those of any other; it can be thoroughly cleansed and taken to pieces and recharged with new Idiocathartes in a few minutes by the user.

Prices, from Rs. 11-8 to Rs. 45, Cash.

DOULTON'S IMPROVED MANGANOUS CARBON FILTER.
(NEW PATENT.)
PURITY, EFFICIENCY, SIMPLICITY.

The Filtering Medium is Composed of a Manganous Carbon-Block and two Layers of the same Material in a granulated and Powdered State, this Combination forming a most Effectual Purifying Medium. This Filter being made in several parts, is open to Inspection, and can be Cleaned without Trouble or Expense.

POCKET AND TABLE FILTERS.
FRENCH STONE FILTERS.
GLASS TABLE FILTERS.

TREACHER & CO., LIMITED,
BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA, LD.,

GENERAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS FOR THE TWENTY-EIGHTH HALF-YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES AND RESERVES.	AMOUNTS.	TOTALS.	ASSETS AND PROPERTIES.	AMOUNTS.	TOTALS.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
To Capital Subscribed 40,000 shares at Rs. 100 each	40,00,000 0 0	39,99,860 8 0	By Advances on Government Securities, Bank and Joint Stock Shares, Invoiced Goods, House Properties and Land Estates, Commercial and Private Bills	....	26,68,137 15 0
Deduct calls unpaid	139 8 0				
To Rest		1,27,245 12 8	" Bills of Exchange Receivable	.....	14,11,912 7 3
Reserve Fund	1,00,000 0 0		" Bills for Collection, as per Contra	....	33,547 11 9
Pension and Guarantee Fund	10,000 0 0		" Adjusted value of Properties, Fixtures, Strong Rooms, Safes, Furniture,		
Undrawn Dividends	7,199 1 0				
Balance of Profit and Loss	10,116 11 8				
Due to Shareholders		41,27,106 4 8		.....	3,74,034 1 5
To Interest Deposits	81,17,984 9 10		" Adjusting Account	.....	1,33,601 3 5
" Current Account Balances	15,84,100 2 4		" Stamped Papers	.....	2,617 4 7
" Bills Payable	23,71,361 13 0		" Cash and Investments	.....	59,77,141 2 7
Due to the Public	.....	1,20,73,446 9 2	" Government of India Loans and Authorised Investments	51,99,691 5 8	
To Branches Dependency	.....	2,60,237 6 11	Balances with Bankers, Coin, Notes, Drafts, Sovereigns	7,77,451 12 11	
" Liabilities on Cash Credits	.....	3,73,076 9 8			
" Bills Received for Collection	.....	83,547 11 9			
" Bad and Doubtful Debt Fund	.....	6,83,504 7 9			
" Sundries	.....	50,104:12 1			
Grand Total, Rupees	.....	1,76,51,043 14 0	Grand Total, Rupees	.....	1,76,51, 43 14 0

Certified that we have examined the Accounts and Securities of the Commercial Bank of India Limited, for the half-year ended 31st December, 1899, and that this Statement correctly represents the Bank's affairs as nearly as circumstances admit, in accordance with the requirements of Section 09 of the Indian Companies' Act of 1882.

RONALDSON AND RONALDSON, Auditors.
H. REYNOLDS, Accountant. REG. MURRAY, Chief Manager.
EARDLEY NORTON, WALJEE LALJEE, T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTY, } Directors
Commercial Bank of India, Limited, Madras, 22nd January, 1900.

DIRECTORS' REPORT,

Your Directors beg to submit the Audited Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the half-year ending 31st December, 1899, showing a net profit of Rs. 10,116-11-8, which has been carried forward. This diminished result, as compared with the result of the previous half-year, is accounted for by:—

(1) Not estimating Interest on certain Block loans as heretofore ... ... Rs. 54,000
(2) Increased cost of borrowing on 3 per cent. Government Paper in London. Rs. 20,000

Rs. 74,000

The recommendations of the Special Auditors in regard to making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts have had our most careful attention. We have considered it advisable to increase their estimate of loss by Debts Bad and Irrecoverable from Rs. 5,84,771 to Rs. 6,78,102, but in making provision for contingent losses we are able to reduce the special auditors' estimate from Rs. 4,05,593 to Rs. 1,71,898. This improvement is due to a very careful revision of the values of the Properties and Assets held, and we feel confident that ample sums have now been set aside to cover all probable loss.

The position now is that we hold our Capital intact and have a Reserve Fund of Rs. 1,00,000.

During the half-year Mr. E. F. Stranack, the late Secretary and Treasurer, was, we regret to report, through ill-health and his consequent inability to return to the East, compelled to resign the service of the Bank.

Mr. Reg. Murray, Manager of the Calcutta Branch, was selected to assume the Chief Management of the Bank.

Reports of the Extraordinary General Meeting of 15th November and 1st December last have been circulated to Shareholders.

Subject to the order of the Madras High Court for the transfer of the Registered Office from Madras to Calcutta, Messrs. R. G. Orr, Waljee Laljee and T. Namberumal Chettiar, retire from the Board, and three gentlemen in Calcutta must be appointed in their place. The names of Mr. E. Meyer, of Messrs. Meyer Brothers, Mr. C. Greenway, of Messrs. Shaw Wallace & Co., and Mr. R. D. Mehta, C. I. E., are those recommended by the retiring Board. The Hon'ble Mr. Eardley Norton, as intimated at the Extraordinary General Meeting, retains his seat on the Board.

Auditors will have to be appointed for the coming year, and the retiring Board recommend that Messrs. Lovelock and Lewes, Chartered Accountants, Calcutta, who conducted the Special Audit at 31st October, be appointed.

Your Directors have had a very serious quantity of extra work thrown upon them in their labours connected with the investigation of the Bank's affairs. As no dividend is available for the current half-year, your Directors in Madras have abstained from drawing their usual fees, preferring to leave the question of their remuneration, under the circumstances, to the direction of the Shareholders.

EARDLEY NORTON, Chairman.
WALJEE LALJEE.
T. NAMBERUMAL CHETTY.

Note.—Mr. R. G. Orr and Sirdar Soojan Singh being absent from Madras have not signed the Report.

FAVRE LEUBA & Co.,
SWISS WATCH MANUFACTURERS.

ALL REQUIRING an accurate, elegant and durable TIMEKEEPER should select a WATCH of our MANUFACTURE and bearing our NAME and TRADE MARK.

They are obtainable through any dealer in India or Burma, or direct from our head office for the East.

22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY.

We won in open competition at the CALCUTTA EXHIBITION, 1883-84, the only GOLD MEDAL which was awarded for the actual manufacturing of SWISS WATCHES.

FAVRE LEUBA AND COMPANY,
HEAD OFFICE.
22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY.
ESTABLISHED IN INDIA OVER 40 YEARS.
NEW AGENTS WANTED.

CLEARANCE SALE.
CLEARANCE SALE.
CLEARANCE SALE.
"PREMIER" BICYCLES.
"PREMIER" BICYCLES.
"PREMIER" BICYCLES.
HELICAL TUBE.
HELICAL TUBE.
HELICAL TUBE.

"REMIER"
HELICAL
BICYCLES.

GREAT REDUCTIONS.
GREAT REDUCTIONS.
GREAT REDUCTIONS.

EVERY MACHINE UP TO DATE. DUNLOP TYRES.
EVERY MACHINE UP TO DATE. DUNLOP TYRES.
EVERY MACHINE UP TO DATE. DUNLOP TYRES.

Bicycles at GREAT REDUCTIONS, bringing the prices of England's Best and Strongest BICYCLES made of HELICAL TUBING lower than the prices asked for machines of obscure and doubtful manufacture.

FOR PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS APPLY
MARCKS & CO., LIMITED,
BOMBAY AND POONA.
SOLE AGENTS FOR THE NEW PREMIER CYCLE CO., LD.

McDOWELL & CO.,
MADRAS.

HAVANA CIGARS.

TO MEET THE DEMAND WHICH WE BELIEVE EXISTS IN INDIA FOR
REAL HAVANA CIGARS.

We have arranged for the regular importation of the undermentioned BRANDS made of the
FINEST
HAVANA TOBACCO
Procurable, and are now in a position to offer them at the following Prices:—

"MULETA" Principes
4 7/8 inches. Rs. 19-12 per 100 in 50's.
Rs. 20-8 per 100 in 25's.

"COMPOSIA" Especiales
4 3/8 inches. Rs. 17-1 per 100 in 50's.

"COMPOSIA" Imperatrix
4 3-8 inches. Rs. 22-1 per 100 in 25's

"MULETA" Graciosos
3¾ inches. Rs. 13-4 per 100 in 50's.
Rs. 14-2 per 100 in 25's.

ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET FREE ON APPLICATION

McDOWELL & CO., LD.,
MADRAS AND LONDON.

GENUINE
HUSCHKE'S
COLOGNE WATER.
(LEADING BRAND SINCE 1842.)

HAS been imported into THIS COUNTRY CONTINUALLY and in increasing quantities for the last 40 years. This fact proves that its excellent qualities are well understood and appreciated by the public. Imitations have reached this market and inferior brands have been put forward, bearing labels closely imitating the Genuine Huschke 3 Star Label. All such imitations will be prosecuted, and the public are requested to beware of them, and to see that the label on each bottle and box bears the 3 Stars in Blue, and on the back of the Label, as seen through the bottle, the inscription:

"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

RUSTOMJEE MANECKJEE & CO.,
18, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.
SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOVELTY THEATRE.

SUB-LESSEE & MANAGER : MR. JAS. BELL.

THE DELROY SEASON.

THE MOST

IMPORTANT AMUSEMENT ENTERPRISE ever introduced to Bombay for a brief season of THIRTEEN NIGHTS ONLY.

COMMENCING

FEB. 3rd { SATURDAY } { SATURDAY } FEB. 3rd

GRAND OPENING PERFORMANCE of the distinguished BURLESQUE and TERPSICHOREAN ARTISTE,

MISS ADA DELROY,

and her powerful Combination of ARTISTIC ENTERTAINERS,

who will present for the approval of the Bombay Public the most Novel, Interesting, and Amusing Entertainment ever witnessed

EVERY MEMBER OF THE COMPANY A STAR ARTISTE

Of Metropolitan Reputation and who are all New to Bombay.

Among the many New Attractions to be presented are

"THE CONVICTS ESCAPE."

This is a most Marvellous and Novel Illusion invented by Professor MORRIT, and is at present the Raze of London; no other Illusion has ever caused so much bewilderment.

MISS. ADA DELROY,

The World's Greatest Terpsichorean Artiste as

"SHE"

in the

"FIRE OF LIFE."

Inspired by Rider Haggard's Novel, showing the transition of Youth and Beauty into a HEAP OF CHARRED REMAINS.

This Dance is the most awe-inspiring and sensational one ever attempted. The rage of London and Paris. For this Dance La Louie Fuller received a salary of £500 per week. Miss Delroy is now placing it on the Bombay Stage for the first time with all the original effects.

FIRST EXHIBITION IN BOMBAY OF THE NEW BIOSCOPE.

The most up-to-date and perfected Life Motioned picture Machine yet invented. Absolutely free from Flicker and Vibration, and reproducing a Veritable Journey of Living Pictures.

120 ANIMATED SUBJECTS 120

ALL NEW TO THE EAST

and including a series of pictures of LATE EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE WHITE MAHATMA

IN HER

WEIRD DREAM VISIONS.

A Psychological Bewilderment.

Plan at SOUNDY & Co.,

Admission: Rs. 3, 2 and 1.

Doors open 8-15. Commence 9-15 sharp.

Carriages 12-15.

JAMES MORGAN,

Business Representative.

HOMEWARD-BOUND PASSENGERS AND TOURISTS.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. receive and store Surplus Baggage and re-ship the same.

Articles of Indian Art manufacture received and packed securely for transit.

MESSRS. LATHAM & Co. being directly represented at all the principal European, American, and Australian ports by thoroughly reliable Agents, all packages entrusted to their care will be expeditiously and economically cleared and despatched on arrival at destination.

If desired, passengers can be met on arrival by Messrs. LATHAM & Co.'s Agents.

BOMBAY, Esplanade Road. KARACHI, Bunder Road.

THE HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of Members of the WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB will be held at the Annexe, Apollo Bunder, at 5-30 P.M. on THURSDAY, 15th February, 1900.

By Order,

CECIL GRAY, Secretary, W. I. T. C.

Bombay, 31st January, 1900.

NOTICE.

THE AGENCY of the IMPERIAL BANK of PERSIA in BOMBAY was THIS DAY handed over to the NATIONAL BANK of INDIA, LIMITED.

Bombay, 31st January, 1900.

GRAND HOTEL, SIMLA.

Proprietor—F. PELITI.

The Hotel re-opens for the season on the 15th March, 1900.

NOTICE—Owing to the increasing popularity of the Hotel, CHEV. F. PELITI has found it necessary to build a

NEW BLOCK called LYTTON BLOCK,

Consisting of 18 suites of rooms, and has the pleasure in stating it will be ready for occupation in April.

The Hotel is entirely under European supervision and is renowned for the Excellent Cuisine of which a First Class French Chef is in charge.

TERMS

FOR SUITE OF ROOMS IN

NEW & EAST BLOCK.	WEST BLOCK.	MAYO BLOCK
Each suite consisting of bed-room, dress-room & bath-room, per diem Rs. 7.	Each suite consisting of sitting-room, bed-room, dressing-room and bath-room. Occupied by one person, per diem Rs. 8 Ditto by two persons, per diem Rs. 12.	Specially Recommended for Families. Each suite consisting of large sitting-room, bed-room, dressing-room and bath-room. Occupied by one or two persons, per diem Rs. 16.

Some superior rooms, all handsomely furnished, available in Main Block.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO

F. PELITI,

10-11, ESPLANADE ROW, CALCUTTA.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

THE PARTNERSHIP existing between the Undersigned, who were carrying on business at Meadows Street, Fort, under the name and style of "P. Dubash and Co.," has THIS DAY been DISSOLVED by mutual consent, and henceforth the business of the said Company will be carried on by Mr. PALLONJI PESTONJI DARUWALLA alone, who will receive and pay respectively all the monies due to and owed by the said Company.

(Sd.) PIROJSHAW RATANJI DUBASH,
(Sd.) PALLONJI PESTONJI DARUWALLA.

Bombay, 1st January, 1900.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.

TESTAMENTARY AND INTESTATE JURISDICTION.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen Defender of the Faith, Empress of India.

Petition for Probate of the last will and Testament of GOMTIBAI of Bombay, Hindu widow of BANSALI SUNDARJEE PURSHOTUM, late of Bombay Hindoo, Deceased.

HURJIVAN SUNDERJEE, JIVANJEE NATHUBHAI and BAPULAL BHOGABHAI, all of Bombay, Hindoo Inhabitants, the Executors named in the said Will.....Petitionors.

ALL PERSONS claiming to have any interest in the Estate of the abovenamed Deceased, are hereby cited to come and see the Proceedings, if they think fit, before the Grant of Probate.

Witness, SIR LAWRENCE H. JENKINS, Knight, Chief Justice at Bombay, aforesaid, the 29th day of January in the year of our Lord, One thousand and Nine hundred andin the Sixty-third year of our Reign.

L. N. BANAJI, Registrar.

The Seal of the High Court at Bombay.

D. B. BINNING,
The 29th day of January, 1900.
MESSRS. CRAWFORD, BROWN & Co, Petitioners Attorneys.

BOMBAY HORSE AND DOG SHOW

TO BE HELD ON THE 13TH AND 15TH FEBRUARY, 1900.

FIRST ENTRIES CLOSE on the 3rd FEBRUARY. PROSPECTUS and full particulars obtainable from

D. LINDSAY,
Hony. Secretary and Treasurer.

Old Secretariat, Apollo Street.

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines, Re 1, each succeeding line, As 8. No Trade Advertisements are admitted under this Scale.

PEG MEASURES.—Reversible. Full "Peg" one side, half "peg" the other. Britannia Metal, Rs. 5-8. Electro-plate on Nickel Silver, gilt inside, Rs. 9-8. Sterling Silver, gilt inside in leather covered velvet lined case, Rs. 23-8.—MARCKS and Co., Ltd., Bombay and Poona.

BY USING "VERMITE" COCKROACHES, BEETLES, &c., are forced from their haunts to the open to POSITIVELY DIE, so that they can be swept away, instead of dying, as is the case with many other powders, at the back of partitions, &c.,—Per box, Ans. 14. THOMSON and TAYLOR, 35, Esplanade Road, Bombay.

ARRIVAL of NEW GOODS:—Cretonnes, Tapestries, Curtains, Table Cloths, Carpets and Linens in every variety and at all prices—JOHN ROBERTS & Co., Ld., Bombay.

CYCLING STOCKINGS.—Fine Ribbed Woollen with Fancy Tops, thin feet, from Rs. 4-8 per pair. Cycling Garters, Cycling Knickers, from Rs. 19-8. Soft White Cycling Sweaters, etc.—ASQUITH & LORD, Apollo Street.

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AN ENGLISH and EUROPEAN LADY REQUIRES a situation as Lady's Maid, Nursery Governess, Matron, or Housekeeper. Upcountry preferred. Excellent references. Address M. C. care of Bombay Gazette Office.

GOOD OPPORTUNITY to become a MEMBER of RAJA DEEN DAYAL and SONS' Art Photographic Salon, Bombay, under their Amended Scheme of Membership for 1900. Particularly suitable for large families. THIS WILL SAVE 20 per cent. Full particulars on application to the MANAGER.

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THE only Firm in India which repairs and replaces new Springs to Air Guns with 3 months' guarantee. No. 1, Rs. 4. No. 3. Rs. 5.—STEFFENAUER and Co., Fort Bombay.

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BOMBAY WASHING Co., opposite Watson's Hotel, Fort, 12 years' Experience, the only place to save your expensive Clothes from being spoilt by Washing or Cleaning.

BOARD and RESIDENCE WANTED by English couple with two young children, board and residence in or near the Fort. Clean, airy rooms. State terms, moderate.—Address "J." Gazette Office, Bombay.

HAY in BALES. Good quality. Apply DIPMAL, care of Post-Master, Khandalla.

VOICE from Madras.—C. Green, Esq., Retired Salt Officer and Secy. to Rajah Venecegopala Bahadur, writes on 19th May, 1898:—I suffered with fever for 19 days and had two doctors in attendance, but their Medicines did me no good. I was then recommended to try Batliwalla's Ague Mixture and with few doses the fever left me and I have had no return of it since. Batliwalla and Co.'s Cholera is as effective in Cholera as Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture are effective in fevers. It has never failed in cases of Cholera, and you are requested to send for its testimonials. Batliwalla's Ague Pills or Mixture and Batliwalla and Co.'s Cholera are sold everywhere, at Re. 1 per bottle, or are sent by Dr. PATLIWALLA, Worlee, Dalur, Bombay. Discount to the Trade.

TO BE LET.—A spacious well-furnished BUNGALOW, at Malabar Hill. Apply, care of Manager, "Bombay Gazette."

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MESSRS. OLIVER & Co.—Only Respectable and Trustworthy Servants, Clerks, Peons, &c., and Nurses, &c., of all denominations supplied. The original and only firm that supplies thoroughly efficient and reliable High Class Domestic Servants. Patronized by the Officers of the Services (Army and Navy) as well as the Leading Clubs and Hotels. Especially First Class Portuguese and Mahomedan Servants, for whom we guarantee and hold ourselves responsible. Highest reference given if required. Fee Rs. 2 each servant. No. 4, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay. N. B.—Beware of the so-called Registry Offices.

OVERLAND SUMMARY, published Weekly on the Departure of English Mail, 28 pages of the "Pall Mall Budget" size, containing all the information of the previous week, carefully arranged. Army Orders &c. Indian Subscription, Rs. 12 per year, free of Postage, English Subscription, Rs. 15 per year, including Postage.

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CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

	Rs.
Horses broken to single (Rs. 15), and double Harness, (30,) and Saddle (Rs. 15), Raw Walers Charged extra	
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	25
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Examination and Certificate	10
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

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MESSRS. AHMED DEWJI & BROTHERS, High Class Furniture Manufacturers, Suppliers to NATIVE PRINCES and CHIEFS, have now the pleasure to inform their Constituents and the Public that they have removed to new and extensive Premises, Nos. 10 and 11, Old Cast Street, Chowkie Road. They make and always have for immediate delivery all kinds of artistic furniture to European style and taste for Dining, Drawing, Office, and Bedrooms. Also a large and varied stock of Brass and Iron Bedsteads, Perambulators, Bentwood Furniture, Tapestries and Dinner, Dessert, and Toilet Sets, &c., &c., of Standard Makers. Bungalows and Houses furnished on hire at short notice and moderate price.

Up-Country ORDERS and different Contracts undertaken. INSPECTION and CORRESPONDENCE kindly solicited.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A GRAND SCOTCH CONCERT WILL BE GIVEN IN THE TOWN HALL On WEDNESDAY, THE 7TH FEBRUARY, 1900, AT 9-30 P.M., UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES LORD AND LADY SANDHURST, in aid of the Funds of THE BOMBAY SCOTTISH ORPHANAGE.

ADMISSION: Rs. 3, 2 and 1.

Tickets and Plan at Messrs. SOUNDY & Co.'s.

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BANK OF BOMBAY.

SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

Sums not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in the aggregate may be deposited within any one year from 1st January to 31st December.

Deposits may be made in the names of two or more persons, and the balance made payable to one or more of them or to the survivor or survivors.

Interest is allowed at the rate of THREE PER CENT. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

J. BEGBIE, Secretary and Treasurer.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:—CALCUTTA.

BRANCHES:—BOMBAY, KARACHI, LONDON, MADRAS, RANGOON AND RAWAL PINDEE.

SUB-AGENCY:—MURREE, (April to October.)

CAPITAL PAID UP—RS. 40,00,000.

RATES OF INTEREST allowed are as under—

STERLING DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS for home remittances 4 per cent. per annum.

FIXED DEPOSITS 9 to 12 months, 5 per cent. per annum.

2 years at 5½ per cent. per annum.

3 years at 6 per cent. per annum.

The Bank will also at the Head Office or at any of the Branches in India, transfer sums for DEPOSIT in London, carrying interest from date of transfer in India.

Special Rates are given for SHORT PERIOD DEPOSITS. At present they are—

1 and 2 months—3 per cent. per annum.
3 months—7 per cent. per annum.

Sums as small as Rs. 10 are received into the Bank's PRUDENTIAL FUND, bearing half-yearly compound interest at 5 per cent. per annum.

Cheques, Bills, Hundies and Currency Notes of any Circle are collected and credited free of charge in the above INTEREST DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS receive 2 per cent. per annum upon the daily balances.

Apply for RULES to HEAD OFFICE or BRANCHES.

By order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK, Manager.

Bombay, 1st January, 1900.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LD

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...£1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £300,000

HEAD OFFICE:
47 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.

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Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Elya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

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The Bank receives DEPOSITS FIXED for one year and shorter periods, at Rates of Interest to be ascertained on application.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS are opened for approved Customers, and Interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances from Rs. 1,000 up to Rs. 1,00,000, but no Interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 10 half-yearly.

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DRAFTS are granted on the Head Office and Branches of the Bank and on the principal Cities of Europe and Australia. Remittances may be made by telegram.

The Bank undertakes the purchase and sale of Government Securities, Stocks, and Shares, and receives same for safe custody realising Interest and Dividends when due.

LOANS and CASH CREDITS granted on approved Securities.

ROBT. R. ROSS, Acting Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL..... Yens 24,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL ..... " 12,000,000
RESERVE FUND ..... " 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE:—YOKOHAMA.

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Has lately caused great commotion in the cycling world.

It is a Natural Spring Frame Bicycle of a register design.

The forks and frames of the RESILIENT, LADIES' AND GENTS', are so designed as to absorb the vibration before it reaches the rider, and at the same time to increase the strength of the frame by causing the strain to be distributed evenly over the entire machine. "Experts declare that the purpose of the "RESILIENT TRIUMPH" has been successfully accomplished, and as a natural sequence this type of machine is coming rapidly to the front as a first favourite."

British Journal of Commerce of July, 1899.

The attention of riders in the districts is specially drawn to the Resilient Triumph which is the most comfortable and easy-running bike on rough roads.

IMPORTANT.—The vibration-absorbing qualities of the Resilient "Triumph" will be apparent to anyone who after having subjected it to a fair trial returns to a rigid diamond frame, when the difference in comfort of the "Resilient Triumph" will be found to be enormous.

The speed qualities of this machine are proved by the fact that Mr. W. S. Yeoman, of the Silverdale C.C., mounted on a standard pattern Resilient Triumph beat the Lands End to London Unpaced Record, by 2hrs. 37mins. on October 3rd, 1898, covering the entire distance in 25 hrs. 58 mins.

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(Orders are being registered to prevent disappointment.)

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Absolute Security.

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ORANGE PEKOE		1	
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Calcutta.	Bangkok.	Foochow.
Rangoon.	Kwala Lumpor.	Manila.
Colombo.	Batavia.	Yokohama.
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Paid up Capital	$ 100,00,000
Reserve Fund	$ 110,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors	$ 100,00,000

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BOMBAY AGENCY.

CURRENT DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on Daily Balance if not under Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000: but no interest is allowed when the sum accrued does not amount to Rs. 5 half-yearly.

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Credits granted on approved Securities, and every Description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

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PHIPSON & Co., Bombay, are now supplying 230 Military Messes and 69 Clubs with the finest VINTAGE WINES, Spirits, or Liqueurs from the following well-known Houses:—

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CARSTAIRS & ROBERTSON	Leith.
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JAMES HAWKER & Co.	Plymouth.
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NATH. JOHNSTON & SONS	Bordeaux.
J. SACOONE	Gibraltar.
COSSART, GORDON & Co.	Madeira.
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BUTLER, NEPHEW & Co.	Oporto.
COCKBURN SMITHES & Co.	Oporto.
VAN-ZELLERS & Co.	Oporto.
WOODHOUSE & Co	Marsala.
LEACOCK & Co	Madeira.
AYALA & Co.	Ay.
RUINART PERE ET FILS	Rheims.
KIDD AND SHADBOLT	London.
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C. MAREY & LIGER-BELAIR	Côtes d'Or.
ACKERMANN LAURANCE	Saumur.
ANDREW ROWAN	Melbourne.
AUSTRALIAN WINE Co.	Melbourne.
JOS. DIETZL	Budapest.
R. SCHLUMBERGER	Vösiau.
JAMES CATHCART & Co.	Leith.
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Secretaries and Presidents of Clubs and Military Messes can now obtain Wines, Spirits, or Liqueurs &c., from the above well-known Firms, without the inconvenience and expense of importing direct.

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B. SMYTH & CO., LIMITED,

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HUNTLY BLEND WHISKY.	
CLUB BLEND	"
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SLATER'S V. O.	"
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THE DECCAN BANKING AND AGENCY CORPORATION, LIMITED.

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CAPITAL Rs. 10,00,000.

HEAD OFFICE:—5, Patel Street, Fort, Bombay.

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CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened and Interest at 2½ per cent. per annum allowed on daily balances from Rs. 200 to Rs. 2,500.

FIXED DEPOSITS received at the following rates—

For 1 Year,	6	per cent.	per annum.
" 9 Months,	5½	"	"
" 6 "	5	"	"
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V. N. PARULEKER, Manager.

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NOTICES.

NOTICE.

LORD SANDHURST MEMORIAL FUND.

A MEETING of the Friends and Admirers of H. E. LORD SANDHURST will be held in the TOWN HALL, at 5-15 P.M., on THURSDAY, the 8th February, 1900.

N. G. CHANDAVARKER,
BOMANJEE DINSHAW PETIT,
FAZULBHOY VISHRAM,
S. M. MOSES,
J. M. FRAMJEE PATEL,
BHALCHANDRA KRISHNA,
ALEX: McKENZIE,
G. COTTON,
VEERCHUND DEEPCHAND,
Joint Provisional Secretaries.

THE DECCAN BANKING AND AGENCY CORPORATION, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will be held on MONDAY, the 2nd February, at the Registered Office's of the above Company, 5, Patel Street, Fort, to consider the position of the Bank.

KARSONDAS CHABILDAS,
Only Director present in Bombay.

PROCLAMATION.—BOMBAY TO WIT.—By virtue of a Precept to me directed, I hereby proclaim and give notice, that the FIRST SESSIONS of 1900 of Over and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery, will be holden before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, at the Court House, on FRIDAY, the SECOND DAY of February, 1900, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the trial of all Treasons, Murders and other Felonies, Perjury, Trespasses and other Crimes, Misdemeanors and Offences, had, done, or committed within the Town and Island of Bombay, and the limits thereof, and the Factories subordinate thereto; and also to inquire, hear, and determine, in the like manner all Treasons, Murders, Felonies, Forgeries, Perjuries, Crimes, Extortions, Misdemeanors, Offences, Wrongs, and Oppressions had, done, or committed by any of Her Majesty's British Subjects in any of the Territories which now are subject to, or dependent upon, the Government of Bombay, or within any of the Dominions of the Native Princes of India in alliance with the said Government.

And also, that at the same time and place will be holden a Session of Admiralty, for the trial of all Treasons, Murders, Piracies, Robberies, Felonies, Misdemeanors, Offences and other Maritime Crimes whatsoever, done or committed on the High Seas.

And I hereby give notice to all persons bound to prosecute and give evidence at the above Sessions, or in any way concerned therein, that they are to attend at the time and place abovementioned, and not to depart without leave of the Court.

And I hereby give notice to all Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Escheators and also all Chief Constables and Bailiffs of the Town and Island of Bombay and the limits thereof, that they be then and there in their own persons, with their Rolls, Records, Indictments and other Remembrances to do those things which to their offices in that behalf appertain to be done.—Dated this 9th day of January, 1900.

JAMSETJEE JEEJEEBHOY,
Sheriff of Bombay

NOTICE.

PURSUANT to Act XXVIII of 1866, of the Legislative Council of India, entitled "The Trustees and Mortgagees Powers Act, 1866," Notice is hereby given that all PERSONS being CREDITORS of or otherwise having any CLAIMS upon or AGAINST the ESTATE of KENNETH MACAULAY, Marine Surveyor, Bombay, late of Bombay, European, Deceased, who died at Bombay aforesaid, on the 1st day of September, 899, and Probate of an Authenticated Copy of whose Will was on the 12th day of January, 1900, granted by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay to William Macaulay Ross, an Assistant in the Firm of Messrs. Ewart, Latham and Co., Merchants, Bombay, one of the Surviving Executors named in the said Will, to have effect throughout the Province of Bombay (except the Island of John Smith, the other Surviving Executor named in the said Will to come in and apply for Probate thereof, are required to send to the Undersigned Solicitors for the said William Macaulay Ross on his behalf at their Office, No. 30, Esplanade Road, Treacher's Buildings, within the Fort of Bombay, in writing their Names and Addresses, and the Particulars of their Claims upon or against the Estate of the said Deceased so as to reach the said Office on or before the 6th day of March, 1900, after that date the said William Macaulay Ross as such Executor will proceed to distribute the Assets of the said Deceased then in his hands, according to the Directions in the said Will contained, having regard only to the Claims of which the said Executor shall then have Notice as aforesaid, and no Claims sent in subsequently will be recognised.

Dated, this 20th day of January, 1900.

CRAWFORD, BROWN, BAYLEY, & DUNLOP,
Executor's Solicitors.

COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PORT OF RANGOON.

THE COMMISSIONERS for the Port of Rangoon require the services of a Royal Navy Officer (on active service), of the rank of Lieutenant of eight years seniority at least, or of an Officer of the Royal Indian Marine of similar standing to undertake the duties of Deputy Conservator of the Port.

A thorough practical knowledge of Hydrographical surveying is an absolutely indispensable requirement in the Officer holding the appointment, as he will have personally to carry out periodical surveys of the Rangoon river and its approaches with the help of a Native Assistant to whom he will be expected to impart instruction in any part of the latter's duties in which he may find his training defective.

The principal duties of the Officer appointed will, however, be the control of the Pilots and Harbour Masters, the buoying and marking of the river, the working of the ship repair establishment—in other words, the Marine Executive control of the Port, under the Commissioners. In these duties he will have the help of the Assistant Conservator, a certificated and experienced Master in the Mercantile Marine.

The salary of the appointment is Rs. 800 a month, rising in four years to Rs. 1,000 a month, by annual increments of Rs. 50 for approved service. This rate of pay is inclusive of house and all other allowances, except exchange compensation allowance. The Officer appointed will be required to live as near the river as possible.

Applications stating particulars of service, experience and age should be addressed to the undersigned, so as to reach Rangoon on or before the 1st May, 1900.

A. B. GATHERER,
Chairman, Port Commissioners,
23rd December, 1899. 1864. 4t. alt.

TO LOVERS OF ART.

THE establishment in the "First City in India" of a high class and fashionable Art Gallery, fitted up in the most approved and artistic style, where artists and their patrons can at all times meet to their mutual advantage, and to the advancement of Art itself, has been our desire for some years past; but the difficulties in the way of its fulfilment have been so great that the scheme has had to be abandoned—for the time being at least. We are persuaded that were we able to secure the influential support of those in high places and the help of lovers of Art in the Presidency, the Gallery would be a *fait accompli*. Another object of ours in wishing to form an Art Gallery is that we may be able to educate the native mind, and, by furnishing the people with an opportunity of viewing and comparing European work with the crude and absurd productions they have been accustomed to cultivate a refined and more artistic taste in them. Surely this worthy desire ought to have the encouragement it reserves from all true lovers of Art!

In submitting our new Catalogue to the public, which can be obtained on application, we desire to place this object prominently before them, at the same time thanking them for the patronage and support they have already given us. It has enabled us to place the concern in some degree in as favoured a position as some of the leading Picture Dealers' establishments in London or Paris; so far, at least, as India is concerned.

A new feature, as will be seen in the present issue of the Catalogue, is that we have included all the different lines of business which we undertake in one and the same cover, whereas in former years they were printed in separate handbooks, leaflets, &c., necessitating a deal of needless repetition.

It has, therefore, been our endeavour to spare the public the tediousness of the task of looking through a number of separate prints for what they require, by compiling the present issue in as concise and handy a form as possible, adding to it an Index—a feature that was not possible to introduce in the former erratic sort of publications.

Of course, we are sensible of many defects in this our first venture: the principal one being the impossibility to embody in a trade catalogue a complete list of our stock of Engravings. We would, therefore, request those seeking any known engraving not enumerated herein to communicate with us.

We have, further, the pleasure of notifying our *clientele* of our removal into more spacious and conspicuous premises, the address of which we would ask them to kindly take particular note.

Hoping for a continuance of the esteemed patronage and support of our customers, and the public in general.

D. B. DINSHAW & CO.,
BOMBAY FINE ART GALLERY,
ESPLANADE ROAD,
Opposite Bombay Club

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BOMBAY BANK AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. + 1 bon.	1,231
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1-1x31
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. ct.	1,175
Commercial	10,000	100	100	6 p.c.	1,160
Bank of India.	15,000	190	75		88
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	88	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank..	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£29 1-2
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£571
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12 1-2	8 pr. ct.	

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

				Half yearly.	
Ahmedabad Advantage	70	1,000	000	Nil	
Alliance	1,500	1,100	all		205
Anglo-Indian ...	1,345	...	0	Nil	22
Assur Veerjee Mill Ltd.	In all 2000 Shares of which 1002 have been allotted.	Rs. 500 each	Fully paid up	Rs. 25 12 1-2	nom.
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.		1,000	1,000	66	
Bailiary S.&W. Co., Ld. (Belgary	971	60	all	9 per ct.	1 00
Berar Manfg Co., Ld ...	2,750	550,000	200	12 1-2	185
Bombay Unitad	90	1,000	1,000	Nil	350
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co....	50	300	300	dvd Rs 2	423
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld	500	1,00	800	...	90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 5.	300
Bombay Woolen Manfg. Co. Ld	650	1,800	1,000	10 per ct.	1,000
Central India...	1,000	500	50	dvd Rs. 50	1,080
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 30	423
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 25	575
Coimbatore S. and W ...	6,000	100	00	9 pr ct.	1
Connaught Mills	600	500	500	25	525
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	700	...	Rs. 10	385
Coorla Mills ..	900	1,000	1,000	Rs. 25	360
Currimbhoy Mills	80	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs60	590
David Mill ...	1,400	500	500	dvd Rs 30	230
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co. Ld.	400	250	all	dvd Rs20	255
Dhun Mills.....	1,900	1,000	1,000	Nil	103
Empress	2,400	500	500	Nil	200
Framjee Petit...	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	230
Hindustan ...	1,875	1,000	1,000	Nil	250
Hunguphai Mills	700	500	500	40	670
Howard and Bulloughs ...	1,500	500	500	50	607½
Hope Mills ...	600	1,000	1,000	30	350
Hyderabad	700	1,000	1,000	30	1,220xd
Imperial Cotton	900	500	500	Nil	185
Indian Manfg.	1,900	1,000	1,000	dvd 30	400
Indo China Manufacturing Co., Ld..	700	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 50	400
James Greaves,	1,100	500	500	25	445
Jaffer Alli	800	500	500	dvd Rs 20	220
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	1,500	250	250	Nil	125
Jewraj Balloo.	1,000		1,000	no dvd	375
Jubilee Mills Co., Ld.....	8,430	1,000	1,000	20	300
Khandesh	7,500	1,500	1,000	dvd Rs65	690
Khangaum Manfg. Co....	1,000	250	250	65	500xd
Khatao Mackunjee	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd R. 25	400
Krishna Mills Ld	1,218	500	..	dvd Rs 82	575
Leopold.....	3,500	100	103	dvd Rs.5	155
Lord Reay Mfg	445	1,000	1,000	30	200
Lakmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,000	1,800	1,000	Rs 20	600
Madras United	356	1,000	1,800	Rs 100	2,700
Mahalaxmee...	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	75
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,400	500	500	pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	1,000	vd 60	1,635
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co. Ld.,					
Anarauti	300	100	115	dvd Rs15	...
Mazagon	5,000	250	...	dvd Rs. 5	41
Morarji Goculdass	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 45	1,335
Mysore S & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dvd Rs15	200
Madura Mills	7,770	100	100	Nil	...
National	500	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern.....	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 20	110
Oriental	5,625	625	25	dvd Nil	10
Presidency Mills. Co.(Ld).	742	1,	1,000	dvd Rs50	575
Queen Mills ...	800	1,000	1,000	Rs30	540
Ripon Mills ...	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	700
Saraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	500
Sassoon.....	1,500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs20	500
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs75	1,725
Soonderdas ...	750	1,000	1,000	Rs30	325
Southern India	1,000	500	500	Nil	100
Southern Mahratta	1,212	250	250	dvRs 12½	255
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs. 15	225
Standard Mills Co.	6,000	100	00	15	135
Star of India ...	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	660
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs22½	580
Sassoon and Alliance ...	3,000	500	500	dvd Rs 20	295
Union-Spinning and Manufacturing Co....	500	1,000	1,000	50	240
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs 20	250
Venishunker Lukhmishunker Co. Mill Co. Ld..	900	500	500	dvd Rs40	410xd
Victoria Mills..	550	1,000	1,000	Nil	2
Western India,	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvd Rs50	225
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co., Ld.	400	50	all	dvd Rs	2½
Wadia Mills ...	1,000	1,000	1,000	81	...

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	...	£100	...	...	...
B. B. & C. I. R. Co. New £12 Shares	...	£10	...	...	...
Ahmedabad Prantej Ry....	500	00	..	4 pr. ct.	600
Tapti Valley Ry. Co.....	500	500	...	4 pr. ct.	475

MISCELLANEOUS.

				Half yearly	
Alcock Ashdown	1,750	100	100	dvd Rs5	175
Back Bay Baths.....	500	50	50	12	35
Badham Pile...	5,000	100	100	12 pr ct	158
Bombay & Burma Trading Corporation...	1,000	2,500	500	375	6,650
Do. New Issue.	2,500	375	625	93¾	1,680
Bombay Ice Mfg. Co., Ld..	1,250	100	100	dvd 4	79
Bombay Land and Building Co., Ld.....	400	500	500	5 pr ct	50
Bombay Flour Mill	000	500	500	55	750
Deccan Paper Mills	1,000	500	500	5 pr ct	20
Delhi and Northern India Flour Mills ...	500	200	200	dvd Rs10	160
Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ld.....	2,000	250	250	9 p 16	52
Empire of India Life A. Co., Ld	292	500	50	...	55
Indian Guarantee Surety Ship Assn....	5,000	00	10	10 pr. ct.	18
John Roberts & Co	1,500	100	100	10 pr. ct.	180
Kemp & Co. ...	4,000	200	175	21	360
Kurrachee Landing	500	500	300	30	183
Maroks & Co., Ld.....	4,000	100	100	dvd Rs15	159
Napier Hotel Co	2,000	100	1	9 pr. ct.	25
Napier Foundry	1,000	100	0	...	60
Oriental Govt. Security Life Insurance ...	5,000	200	0	12 pr. ct.	131
Phillips & Co. Ld.....	4,000	100	50	dvd Rs 6	25
Port Canning Co.....	6,000	000	100	25	500
Soundy & Co ...	1,000	100	1,000	5	xd½
Treacher & Co.	2,000	500		0	1030
Thacker & Co..	1,500	100		dvd Rs 8	184
Telephone Co...	2,200	251	100	1¼	247

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

FOR health, beauty, and luxury, use the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, which, Lady Constance Howard writes, is "pleasant to use, and whitens and softens the Skin." Also Testimonials from Countess Bathurst, Countess Clanwilliam, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill, and many others. Delicately perfumed. Warning. When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, see that name and figure-head of "Albion" are on the wrapper. Sold by all Chemists, Grocers, &c.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 35m. Sun sets, 5h. 53m. High water, 0-2a.. Low water, 6-1m. 5-52a.

Municipal Corporation, Meeting of urgency, 3 p.m.

Sale of Work at the Bishop's Bungalow, Malabar Hill, 4 to 7 p.m.

POLO.—The ground will be reserved for practice, this evening.

DEATH FROM SMALL-POX IN POONA.—We regret to hear that Mr. Cooper, one of the European small-pox patients in the Sassoon Hospital, died of the disease on Tuesday. His case was considered serious from the first, and in the end proved fatal. One fresh admission into the hospital was registered during the day.—*Deccan Herald.*

PRESENTATION TO A PARSEE MERCHANT.—Mr. Rustomjee, a well-known Durban merchant, who is at present on a visit to India was the recipient of a farewell address and souvenirs from his Indian and English friends in Natal prior to his departure from that country. Mr. Rustomjee is the founder of the Natal Indian Congress, the members of which spoke in terms of the highest praise of his work in this connection. As an instance of his generosity it may be mentioned that entire fittings of the Durban Congress Hall is due to Mr. Rustomjee's efforts.

BURGLARY AT MAHIM.—Vassodew Narayen, who resides in a hut between Lady Jumsetji Road, Mahim, and the Dadur Station of the B. B. and C. I. Railway, has reported to the police that during Tuesday night his hut was broken into and two small tin trunks and a small wooden box, containing currency notes, silver ornaments and books and sundry articles of wearing apparel of the total value of Rs. 150, were carried away. On a search being made about the hut, the trunks, books and some clothing of the value of Rs. 60 were found in the field. The door of the hut had been secured with a piece of string only.

ALLEGED TRESPASS.—At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. J. Sanders Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Constable Morris charged Pandu Fakira and 105 other cartmen with trespassing on the land of the Colaba Land Company. The accused stated that Mr. K. R. Cama, the secretary of the Company, was willing to allow them to stable their bullocks on the land, but the Municipal authorities refused to grant a license for the purpose. The Magistrate said he would communicate with the Municipal Commissioner on the subject. This morning his lordship informed the accused that the Municipality would permit them to remain on the ground provided they kept the place clean and created no disturbance. The accused were discharged.

BURNT WHILE WARMING HIMSELF.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at Parel Tank Road, regarding the death of Suntoo Essoo, a Hindoo boy, aged about two years. Deceased was the son of a labourer and resided with his parents at Parel village. On Friday morning last, the boy was sitting near the fire place, warming himself, when a spark from the fire place, set his *pyran* on fire. The mother on hearing the deceased scream, ran into the kitchen and found his clothes on fire. She tore off the burning *pyran* and extinguished the flames. The deceased was extensively burnt all over his body. He was treated at home with household remedies and he died on Tuesday afternoon. The body was then taken to the Parel cemetery for cremation, where the clerk detained it and reported the matter to the police. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death from burns.

FATAL EFFECTS OF DRINK.—At the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital yesterday, Mr. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, on the body of Mawa Narsey, aged about thirty years. The deceased was a khalasi employed on board the steamship Boddana and resided with his brother at Nagdevi Street. On Tuesday afternoon deceased and his brother returned ashore after finishing their work on board. They proceeded to a liquor shop, where they had drinks, deceased being worse for the liquor. They then went to their house, where after partaking of his meals, deceased was going down the ladder, when he fell down and injured his head badly. He was picked up unconscious and conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where he died yesterday morning. The house-surgeon was of opinion that death was due to fracture of the base of skull. The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from fracture of the skull, the result of an accidental fall from a ladder, while under the influence of liquor.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE PARSONS and the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE RANADE.)

THE POONA MURDER CASE.

IMPERATRIX VS. BABU WALAD RAMJEE.

THIS was an appeal from a decision of Mr. H. F. Aston, Sessions Judge of Poona, who in November last, convicted the accused of murder and sentenced him to transportation for life.

The Sessions Judge, in his finding in the case, remarked that the offence charged against the accused was murder, by causing the death of a woman named Sundera by an act done with the intention of causing her death. The accused stated that he was intoxicated and did not know what he was doing. He said that he went himself to buy liquor at a liquor-shop and became intoxicated. The case for the prosecution was that the accused, who was at the time in the employ of Captain Morris at Kirkee, absented himself without his master's permission, taking his master's revolver. He then, on that day, the 10th November, visited the woman Sundera, an immoral woman of his acquaintance in the city, and took her to the servants' quarters in the compound of Colonel Street, Napier Road, where accused's father was employed as butler, and there, in the butler's room next the kitchen, the accused fired two shots with the revolver at the woman Sundera in the presence of accused's mother and of his wife, after there had been some excited talk and abuse. One of the shots entered the woman's abdomen near the navel, and another hit her on the buttock. This took place shortly before 8 p.m. There appears to have been some idea then of hushing up the matter, but the woman being in a precarious condition, was taken to the Sassoon Hospital, where she died on the 12th November, the cause of death being hemorrhage from gunshot wounds inflicted by the accused. He had accompanied the deceased to the Hospital, and was pointed out by the deceased as the man who had shot her. The accused himself stated at the Hospital that it was he who had shot deceased, but said it happened in a scuffle. On the accused being arrested, there were found two letters in his pocket, purporting to be written by him, one in English and the other in Gujerati, which showed that the accused was contemplating the killing of some one with the revolver taken from his master. It was further part of the case for the prosecution that the deceased was intentionally shot by the accused, because he was aggrieved by her conduct. The accused had admitted all along that it was he who killed the deceased. The mother and wife of the accused would not state what really occurred. They seemed anxious to keep up the conspiracy evidently formed to hush up matters. The mother, however, admitted that the accused was standing a few paces away, and Sundera was sitting when the accused fired at her. The revolver, when handed over to the police next morning, contained four loaded cartridges and two fired cases. The evidence was that two shots were fired by the accused at the deceased. The jury unanimously found the accused guilty; but recommended him to mercy. As the Public Prosecutor said he did not ask for a capital sentence in view of the recommendation of the jury, the Sessions Judge sentenced accused to transportation for life.

Their lordships saw no reason to interfere and dismissed the appeal.

BOMBAY & AKOLA MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED.

A general meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held yesterday afternoon at its registered office, No. 2, Dalal Street, Fort, Mr. Fakirchund Premchund presided. The following was the liquidator's report:—

Gentlemen,—Your liquidator begs to submit herewith an account of the liquidation of your Company made up to date. Your liquidator begs to mention that your Company's factory including building, machinery and stores has been sold to Mr. Sorabji Mancherji Nicholson for Rs. 17,000. From the account of the Company made up to the 15th October, 1898, which is annexed with that of the liquidator, you will find that your Company owed Rs. 13,353-0-4 to Mr. Jehangheer Hormusjee and Rs. 2,140-4-6 to Messrs. Jehangheer Hormusjee & Co., which sums have been fully paid to them. From the accompanying liquidator's account you will see that after liquidating the above sums and other sundry items of expenditure there remains a balance of Rs. 995-15-9, i.e. Rs. 14-3-7½ per share available for distribution to the shareholders.

The above liquidator's report together with the audited statement of accounts, was adopted. Out of the remaining balance of Rs. 995-15-9 a final destribution at Rs. 14-3-7½ per share was sanctioned to be paid to the shareholders. The meeting dispersed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA.

WE publish to-day in our advertisement columns the General Statement of the affairs of this Bank for the twenty-eighth half year ended the 31st of December which shows a balance of Profit and Loss of only Rs. 10,116, compared with upwards of Rs. 2 lakhs in the corresponding period of 1898. The Directors state that the diminished profit compared with the previous half year (when the profit was Rs. 1,25,013) is accounted for by (1) not estimating interest on certain Block loans as heretofore Rs. 54,000 and (2) the increased cost of borrowing on 3 per cent. Government Paper in London Rs. 29 000 or Rs. 74,000 in all. The Directors add:—"The recommendations of the Special Auditors in regard to making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts have had our most careful attention. We have considered it advisable to increase their estimate of loss by Debts Bad and Irrecoverable from Rs. 5,84,771 to Rs. 6,78,102, but in making provision for contingent losses we are able to reduce the Special Auditors' estimate from Rs. 4,05,593 to Rs. 1,71,898. This improvement is due to a very careful revision of the values of the properties and assets held, and we feel confident that ample sums have now been set aside to cover all probable loss. The position now is that we hold our Capital intact and have a Reserve Fund of Rs. 1,00,000." We given below a note on the position of the Bank by Mr. R. Murray, the Chief Manager. He writes:—Both the shareholders and the public will desire some explanation of the affairs of this Bank as represented by the special Auditors' Report. Shareholders will desire to know what are the reasons for the losses which are now fully disclosed and will wish more especially to learn what prospects there are of earning future dividends and of restoring the value of their shares to the prices they paid for them. The public will desire to be assured that the solvency of the Bank is undoubted, and that the assets are sufficiently liquid and substantial not only to meet all present claims, but also to conduct future operations with safety and profit. From my long connection with banking in India, and considering the number of proxies in my favor received from all parts of India, in support of the resolutions passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 15th November last, I venture to think that a few explanatory remarks on my part may not be out of place, all the more so as I am unprejudiced by having had no hand in, and until four months ago no previous knowledge of, the various transactions which have led up to the present results. It is only fair to mention that the Hon'ble Mr. Eardley Norton, who also appends some notes on this report was at the date of his accepting a seat on the Board, in February last quite unaware that the accounts as furnished in the Directors' Report of 31st December 1898, were otherwise than the figures represented, and that it is owing to his searching scrutiny into the Bank's affairs that the present position and past history of the Bank has been brought to light and its career in a downward direction arrested. When Mr. Norton's duties as a leading counsel of the Madras Bar, entailing long journeys by rail to distant parts of the Presidency almost weekly are considered and when notwithstanding the value of every hour of the day to him, he has devoted so much time and arduous efforts to the unravelling and righting of the Bank's account without compensation or fee of any kind, I trust that the shareholders will accord to him their greatful recognition of his services on their behalf. I think it right to mention this, as Mr. Norton is not likely to do so himself, and practically I here is no one to tell you except myself. The transactions causing the heavy losses which are only now fully recognised were entered into for the most part from five to ten years ago, and consisted in large advances on zamindaries, house property, a sugar factory, &c. According to the professed objects for which this Bank was started, such investments were perfectly legitimate, but too little regard was paid to the proportion which these investments bore to the Bank's resources and to the risk of locking up large amounts which were annually swollen by the accretion of interest and law charges. Too much regard on the other hand was devoted to maintaining a high rate of dividend. The sentiment that the success of the Bank was dependent on the price of its shares, or the apprehension that a fall in price might have an adverse influence on the Bank's resources, appear to have caused some fatal hesitation to recognise or to provide for inevitable losses. Had the bad accounts we have now to deal with been promptly closed or provided for some years previously, the shareholders would probably have suffered a temporary diminution of dividend, but their Reserve Fund would have remained intact and the present severe shock to the Bank's credit avoided. Fortunately as I have before mentioned, the Hon. Mr. Eardley Norton has arrested the downward course into which the Bank was rapidly drifting and not only has the whole system of business been changed but orders have been issued to all Branches prohibiting advances on landed and house property without special permission from the Board. Fortunately, too, the losses though heavey do not affect the solvency of the Bank. The accounts you will perceive exhibit a lock up of 14th of the Bank's resources in investments, which are temporarily yielding little or no interest. The Bulk of the Bank's investments, has is, more than sufficient to protect depositors, is represented by cash and securities payable at call and in bills at short sight. The visible reserve of cash is sufficiennt to pay the whole of our current deposit. We hold besides Rs. 44,00 000 in advances on approved Securities which are available at call or on short notice, thus bringing up our reserve of liquid assets to over 60 per cent. of all possible claims. As a running concern, therefore, our financial position is exceptionally strong, and although as the auditors no ice the shareholders have at present to suffer a loss of dividend, the security for deposi ors is unusually ample. With the resources available for our present sound and excellent business of discounting bills and purcha ing bills of exchange and granting loans to supply working capital for current trade operations we are able to cover fully our working expenses, so that as our block loans are released with full interest on re-investment will go clear to profit. One large zamindari loan of Rs. 14 lakhs will be in process of liquidation during the next few months, and the improved prospects of the sugar industry in Madras permit the hope that our lock up in sugar company shares and debentures may shortly become more realisable and profitable. In conclusion, I would draw attention to the extremely useful character of our Bank as at present constituted, and to the great want all over India of the extension of Banks working on our system. The need of the expansion of Banking in India has already received the serious consideration of the Government of India both here and at Home, and is at the root of the proposals now being brought forward for the amendment of the Presidency Banks' Act. It might be thought that the effect of the extension of the business of the Presidency Banks would be to reduce the business of other Banks, but that in my opinion is the converse of what is likely to happen. Wherever the Presidency Banks open Branches in principal marts there is encouragement and financial facility for smaller Banks, who deal more intimately with the detail of trade than the Presidency Banks can conveniently do, to open Branches also, and as the smaller Banks invariably deposit the majority of their cash funds with the Presidency Banks the resources of the latter are fed thereby and the working capital available for trade and industrial enterprise is increased. The greater the extension of Branch Banks by this procedure the greater facility arises of linking up the general financial system of India, and in proportion as the chain of financial communication is thus extended and linked up the less likely are we to suffer from those alterations of plethora and stringency which have hitherto characterised our money market and retarded the progress of trade and enterprise. In the meantime the present management of the Commercial Bank of India has, so far as its resources and sphere of action have permitted, had no reason to complain of the custom and confidence accorded to it in the line of business which it has now undertaken. Our means of making large profits are temporarily hampered by the lock up of capital already alluded to and we are for the present paying high rates of interest to depositors, who are thus deriving benefit at the expense of the shareholders. But I cannot promise depositors that they will continue to receive such preference in the future. As an especially useful, if not indispensable, institution our deposits are certain to increase, and the increased supply will necessarily enable us to lower our rates of interest, though consideration may fairly be extended for some further time by allowing present depositors to renew their deposits on previous terms. In the meantime, however, they are receiving very good rates with ample security, and in these circumstances I do not anticipate any diminution of our working resources by reason of the report now laid before the public. So far as my authority can influence the Bank's transactions I guarantee that every effort shall be made to reduce and gradually to close up all block loans as soon as possible and that all investments in future shall be confined strictly to such as provide short risks. I feel confident that ou the system of operations now being conducted at all Branches the Bank cannot fail to push its way to the front rank of Indian Banking institutions.

FLORILINE.—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH. A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d. of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale Depot, 13, Farringdon Road, London, England.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Plague. Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade...	2	2	11
B Mandvi, Chukla, Umarkhadi and Dongri.....	17	9	58
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Fanaswadi, Bhuleshwar Khara Talao and Kumbharwada	11	2	69
D Khetwadi, Girgaum, Chowpatty, Walkeshwar and Mahaluxmi	13	4	30
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, 2nd Nagpada, Kamathipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada.....	10	4	34
F Parel, Sewree and Sion ...	4	3	24
G Mahim and Worlee	1	3	24
Water Division.....	0	0	9
Non-resident and unknown...	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	20	49
Total.....	55	45	344
Total plague deaths to date	61,351	55,764	
Same date last year	119	85	251

DAMAUN.

On Sunday there were two deaths from plague at Lower Damaun, the victims being a Doobla of Kharewadi and a Mahomedan of Kharawad, and on Monday there were four deaths, the

WORTH NOTICING

REPAIRS & ACCURATE ADJUSTMENTS

Of Theodolites, Nautical, Astronomical and Optical Instruments.

ELECTRO-PLATING

In all its branches has been recognised to be our specialities, and no other firm on this side is up to date able to challenge our firm in the above branches.

C. JOST & Co.,

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT MAKERS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS,
HORNBY ROAD, BOMBAY.

ONE FLAG,
ONE QUEEN,
AND ONLY ONE CIRCUS.

HARMSTON'S

HARMSTON'S

GRAND CIRCUS

AND ROYAL MENAGERIE OF PERFORMING WILD ANIMALS.

ENTIRE NEW COMPANY.

New Attractions in all Departments. New Artistes. New Acts. New features. Every act a novelty and a perfect revelation.

A WORLD'S FAIR OF MODERN MARVELS, "THE GREATEST AND MOST SUPERB SHOW EVER DEVISED BY MAN."

THIS YEAR LARGER FINER, BETTER THAN EVER.

The Menagerie of wild animals has been enlarged, and selected specimens of Australian curiosities added, among them

A "BASORANTA,"

Which has defied all Naturalists that have seen it to say what it is.

GRAND OPENING NIGHT,
WEDNESDAY, FEB 7TH, 1900.

Doors open at 8-15. Performance at 9-15 sharp.

~~MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY AND~~ SATURDAY AFTERNOONS.

Contract for Zenana Seats to Let, and all other Privileges on Application to Robert Love, Manager, Harmston's Circus, Apollo Hotel. Apply early.

For full particulars, read Saturday's Advertisements.

ROBERT LOVE, MANAGER.
COL. CHAS. B. HICKS, Representative.
HANS DREUTZ, Agent.

TO THE LOVERS OF TEAS & COFFEE
DRINK ONLY
THE WORLD RENOWNED.

BRITANNIA BRAND TEAS,

Unsurpassed in Colour and Flavour.
UNRIVALLED IN PRICE.
The only best and nice

PURE GROUND COFFEE.

Coffee Roasted and Ground in Patented Machines under the Direct Supervision.

A trial order is earnestly requested. Up-country orders promptly executed.

J. E. MODY,
Tea and Coffee Merchant, Bombay.

AGENT:—
D. C. OOMRIGAR,
Crawford Market.

ANOTHER GOOD OFFER.

Rs. 50 FOR Rs. 25.

A

CLEARANCE SALE

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SILVER GILT WATCHES.

WE have an Excellent Collection of key wind Silver Gilt WATCHES, the lever movements of which are really FIRST CLASS, and in the ordinary way, quality for quality should sell for Rs. 50 each; but as preference is now given to Stem-wind Watches, we offer these excellent time-keepers to those who do not consider a key-wind watch inconvenient at the bargain and Clearance Price of

Rs. 25.

Complete in case with spare glass, main-spring and a guarantee for 2 years.

MARCKS & CO., LIMITED,
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BOMBAY AND POONA.

BRIDGE CONVENTIONS,

THE LATEST BOOK ON THE GAME OF BRIDGE.

PRICE Rs. 4.

PUBLISHERS:—PIONEER PRESS, ALLAHABAD.

KING, KING & Co.,
BOMBAY.
KING, HAMILTON & Co.,
CALCUTTA.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened free of charge for Commission, and Interest at 2 per cent. per annum credited on 30th June and 31st December, when the minimum balance does not fall below Rs. 500. Currency Notes of all Circles and Demand, Hundies payable in Bombay received without charge.

FIXED DEPOSITS received, subject to six and twelve months' notice of withdrawal at rates which can be ascertained on application.

REMITTANCES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM. Demand and Telegraphic, made at the current rates of Exchange, and addresses in connection with the latter registered Free of Charge through Messrs. HENRY S. KING & CO., 65, Cornhill, London.

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No. 3, HORNBY ROW,
Opposite the Bombay General Post Office.

WM. HUTCHINSON & Co.,
BANKERS, MERCHANTS, AND EAST INDIA AGENTS.
TRAFALGAR BUILDINGS
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE,
CHARING CROSS, LONDON, W.C.
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CONSIGNMENTS of PRODUCE received and disposed.

INDENTS executed with care and promptitude.

PASSAGES booked by a Line of Steamers.

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The representatives of WM. HUTCHINSON and Co., on RECEIPT of INTIMATION, Board Steamers from the East on their arrival at Plymouth, at Gravesend, or at the Docks, to take instructions of Clearing and Forwarding Baggage, &c.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	100 plus 1-8
Bar Silver	27 5-8 plus 1-8
3 per cent. French Rentes	100 1-4 plus 1-4
3 1-2 per cent. Sterling Loan	110
3 1 2 per cent. Govt. Securities	64—1-8
Paris Exchange	25-18 plus 1
3 Months' Discounts	3 5-8 plus 1-8
6 "	3 3-4 plus 1 8
Copper Braziers	82-1

Telegraphic transfers on Calcutta, 5 laks 1-4 1-4 Arrival—R. Rubattino.

EXCHANGE.—The market keeps steady with one seller throughout the forenoon of T. T. 1-4 7-32, D. D. 1-4 1-4. Some Credits were placed for this mail, 1-4 7-16. Closing rates are :—

T. T.	1-4 7-32 to 3-16
D. D.	1-4 7-32
3 Months' Credits	15-32 to 7-16
3 Months' Francs	173
30 Days', on Hongkong	143
" Shanghai	194
" Japan	147 1-2

GOVERNMENT PAPER.—The market opened at Rs. 94 15-16 for Ready and this Settlement with Rs. 95 5-16 for 1st March.

The fluctuations to-day have been purely nominal and the rate closes the same as on opening.

STOCKS AND SHARES—

Bank of Bombay	1,230 xd.
David S. and W. Co.	300
Howard and Bullough	5/5
Manockjee Petit	1,605
Standard Mills	150

SEEDS.—Linseed is fully 1an. higher with business passing. Bold grain in quoted at Rs. 8-4 per cwt.

Gingelly } Markets quiet but steady with high
Castor } rates in Freights, and Exchange
Rape } check business.

London quotes Yellow Guzerat Rape at 42 1-4 in a steady market.

Wheat afloat for U. K. 1,590,000.

COTTON.—The Liverpool market closed quiet yesterday with Manchester firm. Surats quiet. Arrivals firm.

Total day's Sales	7,000 bales.
Surats	Nil
Sales on Spec. and for Export	500 "
Total day's Imports	Nil
Middling American	4 19 32—1-16
Egyptian Fair Brown	7 7 8—1-2

Mid.-Uplands in Liverpool—

Jan.	Jan.-Feb.	Feb.-March	Ap.-May	May.-June.
4·34	4·31	4·28	4·22	4·20
—1	...	...	plus 1	plus 2

The Days Receipts at U. S. Ports 55, 00 bales.

Exports to Great Britain	19,000 bales
" to France and Continent	9,000 "
Mid.-Uplands	
Futures April	7·44+7
" July	7·16+7
Silver in New York	60 1-8+1-8
Exchange on London	4·87 3-4

Locally the market is firm.

New F. G. Bengals	R. 215	for March.
Good Broach	" 235	"
Good Bhownuggur	" 230	for May

For Mill consumption :—

	Rs.
100 bales Hunsar were taken at	203 1-4
300 " Khandesh	214
250 " Pachoa	215

FREIGHTS.—A firm market with nothing doing.

COALS.—Very little doing and the only sale we hear of is 500 tons Seebpore at Rs. 14-12, for Feb. Rates are quite steady.

Receipts of Cotton into Bombay yesterday :—

Growths.	Bales of 392 lbs.
Khandelsh	1,116
Barsee and Nuggur	455
Berar	1,932
Total Comras	3,503
Hingunghat	293
Dholleras	94
Broach	53
Compta and Dharwar	142
Bengals	936
Sind	200
Persian	85
Total	5,356

Summary of daily arrivals of Produce into Bombay :—

	cwt.
Wheat	5 305
Linseed	39
Rapeseed	1 194
Gingellyseed	22,737
Poppy seed	82
Groundnuts	68
Castorseed	575
Rice	95,215

TELEGRAPHIC LINE REPORT.

JANUARY 31.

STATE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

CONTINENT OF EUROPE.—Via Teheran, perfect. Via Turkey, perfect. Via Suez, perfect.

AMERICA.—Via Brest, perfect. Via Valentia, perfect. Via Direct Cable, perfect.

AUSTRALIA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect.

CHINA.—Via Penang, perfect. Via Amoor, perfect. Via Bahmo, interrupted.

AFRICA.—Via Aden, perfect, Via Cadiz Teneriffe-Interrupted, Via Lisbon St. Vincent, interrupted.

Restrictions :—

Telegrams for Panaj Negros (Visayas Islands) are subject to same restrictions as Philippine Islands, but are subject to censure of United States Government.

Censure imposed at Manila (Philippines) on all telegrams containing political news.

Post Master General, London, announces that British Government have decided to suspend at Aden and at the Cape of Good Hope the transmission of all telegrams in code or cipher whether of Foreign Governments or private persons to and from Zanzibar, Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar and every where in German East Africa, Mozambique, Delagoa Bay, Rhodesia, British Central Africa, Orange Free State, Transvaal, Cap Colony, St. Helena and ascension. Telegrams in plain language are subject to censorship and can only be accepted, at the risk of the sender.

Censorship has been established at Panja and Buenaventure in United States of Columbia.

Telegrams for Bagota, Cucuta, Cartagena, Baranquilla, and Bucaramanga in Columbia (South America) cannot be accepted. Those for other offices can only be accepted at senders' risk.

Restrictions on private telegraphic correspondence to and from Azores removed, but still apply to telegrams to Madeira.

Telegrams for Venezuella except State are subject to Government censorship and accepted only at sender's risk, code language admitted on production of code books.

Post Master General at Pretoria announces that all private telegrams for South African Republic (Transvaal) are stoped.

State of communication :—

Cable Jamaica Colon interrupted.
Cable Tarifa Tangier interrupted.
Cable St Thome Loanda interrupted.
Bhamo route to China interrupted beyond the British Frontier between Tengyach and yungchang.
Communication between Natal on one side and Orange Free States and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.
Communication between Cape Colony on one side and Orange Free State and Transvaal on the other entirely suspended.
Communication with Mafeking (Bechuanaland) and beyond interrupted.
This cuts off telegraph communication with British Bechuanaland, Southern rhodesia, Nyassaland and Portuguese Zambesia.
There is no land communication from Mozambique to Beira.
There is a land line between Beira and Quilimane.
Telegrams for places in East Cost Africa which are directed via Loanda and Capetown on account of interruption are accepted at same rates as via Bombay, Aden, during the present war.
Rates for British India and Portuguese Government message to offices of British East Africa Company and on Uganda Rail way are the same as those for Zanzibar, plus five annas postage.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 31st January, 1900

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates. D.	H.	M.	Time occupied in transmission. Hours.	Minutes.
Turkey	24	5	p.m.	31	57
Teheran	31	2	39 p.m.	..	22
Suez	31	2	40 p.m.	...	16

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 31st January, 1900.

	Maximum Time. H.	M.	Minimum Time. H.	M.
From Calcutta	1	40	...	5
" Karachi	...	14	...	2
" Madras	1	32	...	10

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—JANUARY, 30.

10 p.m.	71·1

WEDNESDAY.—JANUARY, 31.

6 a.m.	68·8
10 a.m.	72·5
2 p.m.	76·7
4 p.m.	76·3

LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

SUBSCRIBERS to the WAR TELEGRAM EXTRAS, Rs. 2, can have the same delivered as they arrive.

Names Registered at the *Bombay Gazette* Offices, 18, Esplanade Road.

By sending their own peon subscribers can insure instant delivery.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

CAMERON—January 18, at Saturgal Tea Estate, South Sylhet, the wife of D B Cameron, of a daughter.

TAYLOR—January 26, at Naini Tal, the wife of T E A Taylor, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

CARSHORE—January 24, at Dulsing Sarl, Tirhood, Walter Brooke Carshore, aged 43 years.

MARSHALL—January 22, at Multan Cantonment, Henry Vernon Marshall, aged 25 years and 8 months, fourth and youngest son of the late E A Marshall, District Superintendent, Punjab Police.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

THE Queen's Speech on the reassembling of Parliament is not open to the reproach of being stereotyped and conventional, so often invited by its predecessors. It deals almost exclusively with the state of things in South Africa, opening with an expression of regret that peace has not been restored and concluding with the announcement that a bill will be introduced to prevent the disfranchisement of the men serving in the present war. The war is described as the resistance of the invasion of her Majesty's Colonies, in which soldiers, sailors and mariners have equalled the best traditions of the British people. The courage and soldier-like qualities of the Colonial Contingents are warmly acknowledged, and the Queen's subjects in all parts of her Majesty's Dominions are united to renew and sustain their exertions until "the struggle for the maintenance of the Empire, and the assertion of my supremacy in South Africa is victoriously concluded." It will occasion some surprise that the Ministers who are responsible for the Royal Utterance should go out of their way to suggest to our friends abroad that the existence of the Empire is threatened by the unexpected vigour of the Boer Republics. If South Africa from the Cape to the Zambesi were to disappear beneath the waters of the two oceans that wash its shores, the British Empire would survive in unimpaired strength. To write, as members of Parliament and certain editors who ought to know better have been doing of late, that the British Empire is fighting for its existence and that it has never been in such peril before, is arrant nonsense. In three months of warfare conducted, it is true, without conspicuous foresight or any measure of success at all proportionate to the gallantry and devotion of officers and men, we have not beaten down the resistance offered by two Republics, the whole population of which is not equal to that of an average English county. It is the existence of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State and not that of Great Britain and her vast dominions that is in peril. More in accordance with the realities of the situation is the announcement that the operations in South Africa will demand a large increase in military expenditure. It is understood that in addition to the modest £10,000,000 voted by Parliament in the closing days of the last Session, £20,000,000 will now be asked for. Even this larger sum can only be regarded as another instalment, the most modest estimate of the cost of the war putting it at £50,000,000. A hundred millions is not an impossible total.

It is admitted with engaging candour that the experience of "a great war" affords lessons of the greatest importance to the military administration, an admission that leads up to the information that Parliament must "shrink from no outlay to place the defensive preparations on a level with the responsibilities of so great an Empire, nor relax their solicitude for the Navy and the Coast defences when several other nations are perfecting their Naval preparations." The several nations in question are completing their Naval preparations in view of the unexampled proportions taken by our own in the last few years. As we recently pointed out three of the Continental Powers have recently allocated 130 millions sterling to the increase of their Navies—a sum that leaves out of account the considerable outlay of the United States on warships. It goes without saying that whatever increment under this head is incurred by Great Britain during the present year will again provoke corresponding expenditure by the Continental Powers. It was with the ostensible purpose of putting an end to this ruinous competition in armaments that at the Czar's invitation the Peace Conference met at the Hague. Since the representatives of the Powers met together their mutual distrust seems to have become accentuated, and now the race to ruin by the competition of "bloated armaments" threatens to become more fast and furious than before. Though the the Royal Speech is mainly devoted to the South African imbroglio and its costly sequelæ, sympathetic reference was made to the calamitous famine now afflicting India and the absence of any immediate prospect of the abatement of the plague. There is also a cordial recognition of the offers of Native Princes to place their troops and their resources at the disposal of the Government for the war with the two African States. In the Debate on the address alike in the Lords and in the Commons, the leaders of the opposition prefaced their observations by an expression of sympathy for India in her calamities. The Lord Mayor, it may be mentioned here, in ready response to the invitation of Lord George Hamilton, has promised his willing co-operation with Lord Curzon to raise a famine fund, for which he anticipates a bountiful subscription. As was to be expected, the war in South Africa was the burning topic alike in the Upper and Lower House. Lord Kimberley, while agreeing to the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the war, repudiated the theory that criticism should be postponed until the war was over, and animadverted on the dilatoriness of Government in their preparations, for the war. Lord Salisbury denied that he knew of President Kruger's preparations, though he suspected them. In any case, he could not prevent them, the responsibility resting on those who signed the Conventions. The Prime Minister made the damaging admission that the control of expenditure by the Treasury impairs military efficiency, but he ascribed this to the existing constitutional machinery. It is satisfactory to know that the head of the Government is in favour of an inquiry into the military administration, though he naturally considers that it would be inopportune at the present moment.

Lord Rosebery, who was never prouder of his country than in the Tugela week, made a slashing attack on Lord Salisbury for dealing with a grave situation academically. It is a note of the time that the ex-Premier expresses his belief that the nation would not recoil even from compulsory service to preserve the predominance of the Empire in South Africa. This war, which was entered upon without adequate preparation or forethought, has furnished many surprises for our most trusted Generals. It will have at least as many for those who applauded its outbreak without the slightest misgiving that their enthusiasm would lead straight to compulsory military service and unfathomable expenditure on military and naval developments. Lord Lansdowne stated what we knew already that the Intelligence Department had accurately gauged the numbers and the armaments of the Boers, but Sir John Ardagh underrated their fighting value—an error shared by nearly every editor in London and in the provinces, who were content to draw their estimate of it from their inner consciousness. In the House of Commons Sir H. Campbell Bannerman also repudiated the theory that there should be no criticism while the war was in progress. It is certain that precedents are against such a theory. In the gloomiest period of the Crimean War, the House of Commons passed a vote of censure on the Government and changed the Ministry. During the whole course of the Napoleonic Wars the Opposition lost no opportunity for criticising the shortcomings of the Ministry of that day. Chatham, Burke, and other parliamentary celebrities assailed the Government of Lord North with unceasing criticism and expressed not only their belief, but their hope that the war against the Colonies would end in disaster. Sir H. Campbell Bannerman dwelt on the temper of the negociations before the war, and insisted on the importance of conciliating the loyal Dutch whose co-operation he holds to be essential to a future settlement. Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice, in moving a vote of censure on the Government, denounced the Colonial Secretary for his leniency to the Jameson raiders, and for retaining Mr. Rhodes on the Privy Council. The fate of the amendment is not in doubt. It will be defeated by a large majority. As a matter of party tactics it would have been more skilful to have acted on Prince Bismarck's famous axiom, and left the Ministry to stew in their own juice, which is made particularly hot for them just now by their quondam supporters. The rejection of the vote of censure will be equivalent to a vote of confidence, and their sins of omission and commission will be forgiven

THE week's plague tables for the Bombay Presidency show a decrease of thirty attacks, with an increase in sixteen deaths. The cases in which death occurred were probably attacks of the previous week, therefore it may be taken that on the whole the situation is improved though it be but slightly. There were on the date of the report 121 villages infected as compared with 165 a week earlier, 26 of them being in the Dharwar district, and seventeen in Kolhapur and the Southern Maratha country. In Bombay city the figures were unfortunately higher, both under cases and deaths, the former having risen from 494 to 627 and the latter from 334 to 453. Slightly heavier figures are returned by Karachi, but Poona had neither attack nor death during the seven days. Of the Mofussil districts Thana notes an increase from 31 and 22 to 47 and 39; the figures of one or two others having shown a tendency to rise. But gratifying falls are found in Poona district, Satara, Sholapur, Kholapur, Sachin and Bhor, which together more than counterbalance the increase in Bombay city. The reported cases of plague in the presidency now total 368,307 and the fatal cases 288,999. There appears to be no relaxation of the measures to prevent infection being carried from place to place by railway. The latest statement of cases and deaths reported from stations at which railway medical inspections are carried out shows that since October twelve months when measures were first taken 771 cases have been detected and of these not less than 487 proved fatal.

THE murder of Mr. Graves in December, 1897, is again referred to in the new report of the administration of the Indo-European Telegraph Department. The justification for this fact is that the sequel to that incident may be recorded. It appears that one of the murderers was killed during a fight with the Persians. The second was captured and hanged at Jask. A third gave himself up, and is now in prison. With regard to the fourth man of the gang the record is not so satisfactory. Not securing their man, the Persian police, following their own peculiar methods captured his son, keeping him as a hostage for the surrender of his father. But the father evidently imagines that his family will suffer less by the loss of his son than of the principal breadwinner, and the boy remains in custody. This man and a fifth offender still remain at large, and there appears no immediate prospect of their capture. In order to secure the better protection of the telegraph line in the Geh and Dashtyari Districts the services of the headmen have been enlisted, and thirteen of these gentlemen have agreed for a small consideration to protect both the company's wires and employes. And that such protection was needed may be gathered from the fact that on three occasions linemen were attacked, one having his leg broken by some soldiers. These men were subsequently arrested, beaten, and made to pay compensation. On one occasion the postman carrying the mail between Shiraz and Bushire was shot dead and the mails looted, while two of the Persian staff found it necessaary to claim compensation for outrages committed in 1896 and 1897. The wires in the Persian section and in the Mekran and Lus Bayla have been practically undisturbed except by occasional storms. This is of course not counting the many instances in which playful Persians have made targets of insulators and broken them with stones and gunshot. The summary of the history of the cables and their electrical and mechanical condition during the year shows that one of the earth-faults on the Fao-Bushire cable was caused by a toredo insect. On the Jask-Manora cable a fault was caused by fishes, whose hunger or naturally destructive habits had led to bite the cable. All the lines worked satisfactorily during the year notwithstanding these faults and no interruption of traffic occurred except on the Turkish line, which is now very little used. The working of the line continues to be very unsatisfactory. It is slow and inaccurate and was interrupted for not less than fifty-four days during the twelve months. In addition to running the risk of personal injury it seems that officers of the department frequently find life anything but happy and in the words of the report, the year 1898-99 will long be memorable in Teheran on account of the serious cases of illness from which the staff and the members of their families suffered. During the summer five cases of typhoid fever occurred among the Europeans, resulting in three deaths, and one infant died from acute meningitis. In addition to these cases an unusual amount of malarial fever and diarrhœa occurred. During the winter the health of the staff was good, but amongst the members of their families three cases of diphtheria and three cases of scarlet fever occurred; happily all recovered.

THE passing of the Burma Municipal Act 1898, has been the means of placing local Government in that country on a higher level. Under its provisions the municipalities in Lower Burma have worked, its operations are simple, regularising the administration of small towns. The number of nominated members was reduced and the elected members were increased, but the people displayed no interest in the elections, and in some instances there were no nominees. Expenditure went up from 18 to nearly 22 lakhs, and this was to some extent entailed by a lighting scheme for Moulmein and the provision of a new market at Mandalay, while the police charges at the latter town were considerably increased. Prome is the most enterprising town apart from Rangoon, and is in many respects ahead of other municipalities. Its water-supply is regular, and a drainage scheme, estimated to cost a lakh of rupees, has been approved, and is being carried out as funds permit. The reclamation of tanks is in progress, and a tramway has been laid down. Complete schemes for providing adequate water-supplies for Mandalay, Moulmein and Bassein have been prepared, but they are not yet sanctioned. Sanitation is more or less in a backward state, and in some instances the peculiar features of the localities render it difficult for lay minds to decide, which is the best method. For instance, at Moulmein the authorities are going to call in experts to advise them. In nearly all the municipalities the bazaars form one of the most productive sources of income, and considerable sums have been spent on their expansion. The maintenance of roads absorbed nearly four lakhs, but the expenditure on public works must necessarily fluctuate year by year. The financial position of all towns indebted to Government is reported to be solvent. The six town funds have been regulated, and under the Act of 1898 it is hoped to secure a modified form of self-government.

IT is notified for information that his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief is expected to arrive in Bombay to-day. He will land at the Apollo Bunder publicly. The usual Guard of Honour of 50 rank and file with 2 officers will be furnished with Regimental Band and Colour, and a Salute of 13 guns will be fired as his Excellency lands. Officers Commanding Corps and Heads of Departments will attend.

AT their meeting held yesterday, the Municipal Standing Committee considered a letter from the Municipal Commissioner asking for sanction to an expenditure of Rs. 2,200 from the surplus cash balance to meet the cost of an extra establishment for the Revenue and Refund Audit department, the work of which has increased considerably owing to very heavy exports of grain in consequence of the famine. The sanction was accorded.

HARMSTON'S grand Circus opens on Wednesday next, the site on which the show is pitched being on the vacant ground between Messrs. Raja Deen Dayal's and the Victoria Station Mr. Robert Love, the Manager, has arrived in Bombay to complete the arrangements. The company have just concluded a successful stay of seven week's duration in Calcutta, during which they had the honour of securing the patronage of the Viceroy. The show visited Bombay some years back, and since then the personnel of the company has been altered and strengthened by the inclusion of some really clever performers. The programme is good from beginning to the end, and notwithstanding famine, plague and small-pox no doubt the Circus will prove a great draw.

AT Friday's meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council the Prisoners Bill and Transfer of Property Bill will be passed, and the reports of the Select Committees on the Press Messages, Companies Registration and Whipping Bills will probably be presented.

THE Madras Legislative Council sat again on Saturday and passed, after a very protracted discussion, the Coffee Stealing Bill. The Council adjourned when the Irrigation Bill was discussed.

A CASE of plague having occurred in the 26th Madras Infantry under orders from Vizianagram to Cuttack, the wing has been moved into camp, and will not proceed to Cuttack until further orders.

AN additional line of telegraphic communication between Calcutta and Rangoon will shortly be provided by the construction of a wire from Akyab to Prome, which will link the local wire already existing between Rangoon and Prome with the one from Calcutta to Akyab, via Chittagong and Comilla.

THE reconstruction of the Civil Secretariat, Shillong, which was totally destroyed by the earthquake, has now been completed at a total cost of about Rs. 61,000. The building has a stone masonry plinth and framed timber superstructure, the panels of the walls being filled in with double ekra and lime and sand plastered. The roof is of corrugated iron. The building stands on a commanding site in the centre of the station of Shillong.

THE total number of deaths registered in Urban Calcutta during the weeking ending 20th January was 323, against 352 and 326 in the two preceding weeks, and lower than the corresponding week of last year by 22. There were 12 deaths from cholera against 22 and 10 in the two preceding weeks; the number is lower than the average of the past quinquennium by 8. There were 40 deaths from plague against 32 and 30 in the two preceding weeks. There were six deaths from small-pox during the week, against eight in the previous week. There were two deaths from tetanus, against six in the previous week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 57 and 56 respectively against 68 and 56 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 36·1 per mille per annum, against 36·6, the mean of the last five years.

A CORRESPONDENT writes :—Very little notice has been taken of the extraordinary frauds lately carried out in the Gaujam Treasury. These amounted to a total of nearly Rs. 1,63,000. Of the defrauder's *modus operandi* in one of the cases, the District Judge (Mr. Wolfe Murray) remarks, "The perfect simplicity of this arrangement is only equalled by its audacity, for by its means the 1st accused was apparently enabled monthly to pocket rather more than the salary of a High Court Judge and that throughout two whole years. Nor can it be denied that the fact that the accounts current as sent monthly to the Court of Wards were never compared either here or in Madras with the Personal Deposits Register for Estates as sent to the Accountant-General, went a long way to help his manœuvres." The defrauder in question was earning a salary of Rs. 30 a month and is now languishing in jail. All the doors open to fraud which he found open and walked through will now of course be closed.

IT may, therefore, be assumed that the military struggle for dominion in Afghanistan would be preceded by a diplomatic contest for the alliance of the Ameer. The side which won in the diplomatic struggle would then press matters to the decision of war. The Ameer, in the opinion of the lecturer, would reconcile himself to the loss of Herat more easily than to the sacrifice of Kandahar, which, as compared with the Russian objective, is more in the nature of an integral portion of his dominions. It had further to be taken into consideration that England had frequently given way, while the Russians had hitherto invariably succeeded in attaining their object. The presence of the Russians in Kabul would be a serious danger for India, while if England succeeded in forcing her rival to evacuate Herat that would only mean a return to the present state of affairs. It was impossible for the English to strike a decisive blow at Russia in Samarkand and Merv; so that, while Russia only staked a portion of her power and political influence in Asia upon the struggle, England must stake the whole.

A HEADLESS body, believed to be that of a N.-W.R. Permanent Way Time-keeper, has been discovered inside the Panir tunnel between Sibi and Mach stations. The deceased went out from Sibi walking along the line on the 14th instant, from gang to gang, and was never seen alive again. He was a Punjabi Hindu, and though his immediate superior, the native Permanent Way Inspector, stationed at Sibi, is in custody on suspicion, the foul deed is believed to be the work of some one else, and great alarm is felt by the other railway time-keepers who have to peregrinate the line unarmed at all seasons. Nothing has been accomplished yet for providing the railway running staff with revolvers on this frontier section though the proposal was approved some time back.

AT the sitting of the Naval Committee of the Hungarian Delegation on Jan. 2, Count Alexander Teleki, reporter on the Naval Budget, delivered an address recommending the adoption of the Admiralty Estimates. He dwelt upon the necessity of substituting new ships for the old-fashioned ones within the modest proportions proposed by the Government. Count Teleki extolled the merits of Austrian naval officers, whom he declared were second to none in Europe, an opinion that will be shared by all who know them. In the further course of the day's proceedings the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Goluchowski, referred to that portion of his general statement in the Delegations touching upon the economic development of the Monarchy. The Minister added that whatever importance that might have military considerations, in so far as they concerned an efficient state of defence, were of still greater weight. His Excellency hoped that in course of time Austro-Hungarian foreign trade would increase, and admitted that it would stand in need of substantial support. But for the present it was not so much foreign trade that was in question as the coast defence, which was, indeed, the most vital interest of the country. Under such circumstances Count Goluchowski considered the development of the strength of the navy, within the modest limits proposed in the Estimates, to be an indispensable necessity.

THE "Cologne Gazette" publishes a report of a lecture by Colonel Count York von Wartenburg, sectional chief in the German General Staff, to the Berlin Military Society on "Afghanistan and the Anglo-Russian Rivalry in Asia." The German Emperor was present at the lecture. Count York von Wartenburg concluded his address by instituting a comparison between the Russian and the British forces which would be available in a future war in Asia, and discussed the probable objectives of the operations of either combatant. The occupation of Herat by the Russians would probably be followed by the occupation of Kandahar by the British, and the real struggle would be for the possession of Kabul. In these circumstances the action of the Afghans, who can put 37,000 men in the field, would be of great importance.

THE Bishop of London gave an address on Education at an Education Conference the other day, and we note that the *Standard* is rather shocked at its levity—it "did not err on the side of seriousness." So far as we can gather from his address everything is for the worst in the worst of educational worlds. Education is unpopular with everybody, except girls who really "want to learn." Our public schools are half barracks, half workhouses, to which parents are only too glad to banish their children and their responsibilities for them. There is too much truth in all this, and we are the more inclined to pay attention to it when it is not the *apologia* of an Education Minister for educational deficiencies in our national system. The Bishop had a nice story to illustrate the great difference in bent of juvenile minds. A school inspector recently asked two little children what was meant by "feathered friends." One replied "Angels," the other "Red Indians." That is the difference between the Bible and Fenimore Cooper.

THE occupation by France of Insalah, the centre of a group of oases in the hinterland both of Algeria and Morocco, is the final act of the French conquest of Algeria, began in 1830. French Colonials will perhaps look upon this event as the first act towards the absorption of Morocco, but this Empire, though more decayed than even Turkey, will live, it is safe to say, at least into next century. Morocco is certainly good for another twelve month, when the Transvaal War, let us hope, will be over. Looking at the map, Insalah will be seen to be the centre of an arc formed by the coast of North-West Africa, starting from Oran in Algeria, passing by Tangier on the Straits of Gibraltar, and ending at the Sus coast, the scene of Major Spilsbury's expedition. France's new acquisition is not so valuable intrinsically as on political and strategical grounds. The population of the whole group of cases is not more than 300,000 Beduins and Tuaregs. Its value for present purposes is that it gives France another land route, from Algeria to the Niger, the shortest and, it is said, the best watering stations, being nearer to one another than on the more easterly routes. The marauding Tuareg tribes of the Sahara, who to this day have given French expeditions to the south so much trouble, drew from here their supplies in arms and ammunition. This military basis is now in French hands. Its acquisition is more than a compensation for any disappointments the French may have suffered in other parts of the Dark Continent.

NO credence appears to be attached in France to the story published in Belgium of the discovery by Commandant Henry, of the Congo Free State forces of a small military post on the banks of the Nile commanded by a French lieutenant of marines, which had been left there by the Marchand Expedition. There is, so far as is known, no commissioned officer who was attached to the Marchand Expedition who is not accounted for; and some months ago a sergeant who had been left in charge of a native "garrison" at Mesbra el Rek was reported to have reached Semio or some other post close to the northern confines of the Congo Free State. The whole story of Commandant Henry's journey in the steamer Van Kerchhoven appears to be of very doubtful authenticity, for it is stated that the Belgian officer descended the river to the neighbourhood of Fashoda without finding any traces of Anglo-Egyptian occupation, and that it was only in that part of the river that he encountered a barrier of vegetations which made it impossible for him to proceed. Now, our latest information is that our steamers are able to go up the river for some distance above Fashoda, and that the barrier of "sudd" occurs in the Bahr-el-Jebel above the point where the Sobat flows into the main stream. It is extremely unlikely, if Commandant Henry really did reach the neighbourhood of Fashoda, that he was turned back there, but the chances are that he did not get nearly so far down the river. However, there is a young Englishman, Mr. E. S. Grogan, who is at present attempting to reach Fashoda from Lado, and we ought soon, if he is successful, to have news from him of the present state of the river in that part of the course.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

LADYSMITH GARRISON NOT DESPONDENT.

BOERS ROUND THE POSITION IN STRENGTH.

RUMOURED ADVANCE OF BULLER BY ANOTHER ROUTE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 31.

The Central News correspondent at Ladysmith says :—"We are disappointed, but not despondent at Sir Redvers Buller's failure to bring relief."

The Boers occupied and fortified the spur of the Spion Kop after the British retreat.

It is rumoured that General Buller is advancing towards Ladysmith by another route.

The Boers, who are in great strength around Ladysmith have formed a new laager at Colenso.

Reinforcements are apparently reaching the Boers from the Transvaal.

It is reported at Capetown that Mafeking was relieved by Colonel Plumer's force from the North a week ago.

CASUALTIES SINCE CROSSING THE TUGELA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 31, 6-30, A.M.

The list published by the War Office on Tuesday gives the casualties from the crossing of the Tugela to date as six hundred killed and wounded. Of these three hundred fell on Wednesday in the fighting on the Spionkop.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

PARLIAMENT AND THE WAR.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN THE LORDS.

LONDON, JAN. 31.

In the House of Lords, last night, a debate on the Address in reply to the Queen's speech took place.

Lord Kimberley, after a sympathetic reference to India, agreed as to the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the war in South Africa to vindicate the integrity of the Queen's Dominions, but at the same time his Lordship critic zed the unpreparedness of the Government.

Lord Salisbury, in reply to Lord Kimberley's remarks, denied knowing of President Kruger's preparations, though he suspected them. Anyhow he was unable to prevent the same, the responsibility for which rested with those who had signed the conventions.

His Lordship said he favoured an enquiry into our military administration, but thought it was inopportune at the present time, and hinted that the constitutional machinery, whereby the Treasury controls the expenditure, impairs military efficiency.

His Lordship said he did not doubt our ultimate victory in South Africa, provided lesser issues were sunk.

Lord Rosebery followed with a scathing criticism of Lord Salisbury's academic style of dealing with a grave situation and said he was convinced the nation would not recoil even from compulsory service to preserve the predominance of the Empire.

Lord Lansdowne promised an early explanation of the military measures contemplated.

He affirmed that the Intelligence Department had approximately estimated the numbers of the Boers and their armament but had underrated their fighting value.

Referring to the accusation of unpreparedness his Lordship said that hoping for an ultimate settlement the Government had limited itself to what it had been advised were adequate preparations to defend our South African Colonies.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS IN THE COMMONS.

In the debate on the Address in the Commons Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, like Lord Kimberley, in the Lords, sympathised with India in her calamities and agreed as to the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the war to vindicate the integrity of her Majesty's dominions. He also criticized the unpreparedness of the Government.

He repudiated the theory that criticism ought to be withheld until the war ended, and criticized the temper of the negotiations before the war.

He dwelt upon the importance of the maintenance of good feeling with the loyal Dutch which he considered was essential for the future settlement.

LATER.

Mr. Balfour, speaking during the debate on the Address, said it would have been impossible in August last, to persuade Parliament of the necessity of sending a large army to South Africa.

Replying to Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman he said General Buller had exercised his own discretion in going to Natal.

Lord Edmund Fitzmaurice then moved his amendment (already telegraphed) and attacked Mr. Chamberlain for not punishing the Jameson raiders and for retaining Mr. Cecil Rhodes as a Privy Councillor.

THE ADDRESS VOTED IN THE LORDS.

The Address, in reply to the Queen's Speech, has been voted in the Lords.

THE FIGHT AT SPIONKOP.

LONDON, JAN. 31.

Press telegrams describe the fight at Spionkop as of a bitter and bloody nature. The summit was exposed to a terrific crossfire from artillery and musketry on the neighbouring heights, which the British endured the entire day with splendid heroism losing about 500 men mostly from shell fire.

The smokeless powder used by the enemy prevented our locating the enemy's guns. The height being inaccessible to artillery, the withdrawal of our force became necessary and was effected in good order without molestation from the enemy.

LADYSMITH CAN STILL HOLD ON.

HEALTH OF THE GARRISON IMPROVED.

The Second edition of the *Times* publishes a despatch from Ladysmith, dated the 28th inst., stating that the garrison can hold on.

The health of the troops is improved.

THE REPORTED RELIEF OF MAFEKING.

Boers report that they encountered the British force at Crocodile Pools and retired, but having been reinforced, repulsed the British.

This news apparently refers to Plumer's force, thus disposing of the report that he had relieved Mafeking.

BULLER'S CASUALTIES.

LONDON, JAN. 30.

General Buller's casualties from the 20th to 26th exclusive of Spionkop, still mainly unreceived, were 23 killed (including Lieutenant Garvey of the Border Regiment) and 278 wounded.

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JAN. 31.

Cablegram of general communications from South Africa to the Commander-in-chief states :—Casualties at Ladysmith.—Died of wounds on 28th December, received on 6th January :—2nd Kings Royal Rifles—Lance-Carporal T. Scott. Of disease, 5th Dragoon—Private S. Hardington. 19th Hussars—Private T. Almons.

LUMSDEN'S HORSE.

The departure of Lumsden's Horse will be somewhat delayed owing to the necessity of awaiting the arrival of one of the returning transports from Durban, and Colonel Lumsden has wired to the members in the various parts of India to stand fast until the date of departure can be absolutely fixed.

BALL FOR THE WAR FUND.

The Ball, last night, in aid of the fund, was a great success, some 1,500 tickets being sold.

THE MYSORE AND COORG PLANTERS.

At the instance of the British Resident and Colonels Campbell and Benson, of the Mysore Service, a dinner to the contingent of the Mysore and Coorg Planters for Lumsden's Horse was given at the Cubbon Hotel, Bangalore, on Monday, and was a great success. Some stirring speeches were made. The contingent remained in the hotel for the night, and left the next morning by a special train of the Southern Mahratta Railway for Calcutta. A very large gathering of prominent citizens was on the plat-form, and accorded the contingent an enthusiastic ovation. Major-General McLeod inspected the men and horses at the station, also Colonel Robertson, the British Resident. The special left at 9 o'clock.

A MOUNTED INFANTRY CORPS.

Colonel Chambers, principal of the firm of Messrs. Binny and Company of Madras, who is Commandant of the Bangalore Rifle Volunteers, has formulated a proposal to raise a Mounted Infantry Company in connection with the local regiment. He has obtained a partial promise that his scheme will be accepted by Government, and has already had offers of about 100 men. There are 25 candidates here outside the corps ; 40 are available in the regiment at headquarters, and another 40 are willing to join from the Kolar Gold Field Companies of the Bangalore Volunteers. The idea has caught on greatly. Colonel J. P. Grant, of the Mysore Survey, well-known on the Indian turf, has consented to command the company.

THE MADRAS CONTINGENT.

An enthusiastic send off was given on Monday night at the Royapuram Station, East Coast Railway, Madras, to three members of Lumsden's Horse proceeding to Calcutta from Madras, viz., Messrs. T. E. M. Lawson, W. B. Elwes and T. B. Nicholson. There was a large gathering of friends on the platform, including Archdeacon Elwes of Madras, to bid farewell to his son, and the major portion of the Mounted Company, Madras Volunteer Guards. Other representatives from Madras have already gone, and some follow later on.

A Mysore Planter writes :—"We are busy here seeing the last of our Volunteers for the Cape. Four of the officers are going as privates. Rather a good record ! ! The credit of the whole thing is due to Clifford, who has pegged away, all day and every day, since the idea was mooted, and has simply secured the acceptance of the 30 men off his own bat."

In addition to the Volunteers selected for Lumsden's Horse, from the Punjab Light Horse and the 1st Punjab Rifles, Mr. M. W. Clifford, Assistant-Examiner, P. W. Accounts, of Lahore, has been accepted as a member of the force. Mr. Clifford leaves on Monday for Calcutta.

INDIA AND THE WAR.

Natal is not particularly partial to the Indian native therefore it is refreshing to read the following in the "Natal Advertiser" :—

The numerous manifestations of the loyalty of the Indian population of the colony at the present crisis must have afforded satisfaction to every true colonist. Not alone inofferings, but in personal service have they demonstrated their loyalty to the Throne, and their sympathy with the cause in which Great Britain has unsheathed the sword. We now have from India itself another striking evidence of the fidelity of the people of India. The Indian Princes have made a combined offer of assistance, and one of the most powerful, the Nizam of Hyderabad, has placed his purse, his army, and his sword at the disposal of the British Government. It may be that there will be no necessity to take advantage of these generous and loyal offers. On the other hand it is quite possible that the situation may so develop as to render it extremely advisable to accept them, in some form or other. But whether accepted or not, the spirit which prompted them can never be forgotten, and least of all, we should hope, by Natal. Let us be candid and admit that the Indians have, from their point of view, good grounds for soreness at the attitude of the colony towards their people ; an attitude which although it may be based on considerations grounds is yet, to put it mildly, lacking in cordiality. Yet we find the Native Indian Princes ready to devote themselves and their resources to the task of aiding the mother-country to free the colony from the presence of the invader. We are confident that if called upon, the Indian forces would just as readily fight against the enemy in Natal as elsewhere. We should remember these things, and perhaps they will make us more tolerant of a race which although it is essentially alien in thought and habit from our own, yet dwells under the same flag, and has shown that it is ready to uphold that flag when its supremacy is menaced by a white-skinned foe, and, what is worse, by white colonists, traitors who have enjoyed far more consideration at our own hands than has ever been vouchsafed to the Indians themselves. In resisting the invasion of the colony we have not received one iota of assistance from the Dutch colonists, who could easily have prevented it—on the contrary the enemy have received from them the very greatest assistance active and passive while from the Indian population we have had personal and pecuniary service, and now comes the offer of substantial aid from the Indian Princes. We cannot ignore the contrast ; it is one of the lessons of the war which we should learn along with the others.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

LONDON, JAN. 30.

The B. I. S. N. Co.'s steamer, Itaura, left here this afternoon.

The Clan Line steamer, Clan Maclaren, arrived here this morning.

NAPLES, JAN. 30,

The B. I. S. N. Co.'s steamer Rewa, left here this morning.

HONGKONG, JAN. 31.

The P. and O. Co.'s steamer, Chusan, from Bombay, arrived here at day light to-day.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, JAN 30.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet.

Surats quiet.

Good Brownrugger	3 27-32.

The Manchester Market has been firm.

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	100
3 per cent. Rentes	100 1-4
3 1-2 per cent. Sterling loan	110
3 1-2 per cent. Rupee papers	64
Bar Silver	27 5-8

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

RUSSIAN DESIGNS ON PERSIA.

TWENTY-TWO MILLIONS TO PAY OFF THREE.

LONDON, JAN. 30.

The Bank of Russia has advanced to the Persian Government 22½ million of roubles at 5 per cent. wherewith to discharge all existing foreign obligations at the same time undertaking to incur no fresh foreign loan.

This practically binds Persia politically and financially to Russia.

The Persian Government in 1892 obtained from the Imperial Bank of Persia a loan of £500,000 (equivalent to 3,150,000 roubles) repayable in forty years by half yearly instalments. This is the only public debt for which Persia is responsible. Of course no one can blame Russia for taking precautions. Only, as it happens, the precautions are only against England, for there is no one else interested. Russia has been making many experiments with regard to Persia lately. It is stated that it has been found possible to send troops from Tiflis to Kushk in seven days. The whole point is lost owing to the failure to state the number of the troops. It is easy enough to send 500 or 1,000 men through ; it is quite another matter to send 10,000 The German press has just been reiterating the statement that it is Russia's intention to get to the open sea somehow. This is a fact nobody has ever doubted and everyone knows that Russia wants to work her way down to the Persian Gulf. During the last few months the Muscovite press has been most insistent that Russia must find her way to the Persian Gulf or the Arabian Sea, and such an outlet properly secured to Russia is a guarantee for peace. According to our cable message the "Herald" asserts that the despatch of Russian troops to Kushk, whence they can threaten Herat most effectually, is a guarantee of peace. This however depends on the point of view. The only thing we see clearly is that Russia does not intend to be caught napping. She believes England is sufficiently embarrassed in South Africa to prevent any effectual answer to the movement of Russian troops towards Herat. With this we have the strenuous assertions of the "Viedmark" and other journals as late as the middle of November that Herat is now useless, and is no longer the key to India, because the British have advanced to Seistan. The Russian journals pay the political officer there, Lieutenant Webb Ware, a very high tribute by saying that he blocks the arms of Russia by his excessive activity. The "Times" the other day urged the British Government to take precautions in time.

In the Caucasus the forces maintained, and these are on a war footing, amount to 250,000, and a further reorganisation has resulted in a considerable increase. The break between the main railway system from Moscow to the Caucasus is not yet filled up for the railway only goes to Vladikavkas, on the north of the Caucasus range, and over 60 miles north from Tiflis. From Tiflis to Baku is about 310 miles ; then a sea voyage of 175 miles ; then rail from Krashnovodsk to Kushk, via Askabad and Merv, a total of about 803 miles. The railway is a single rail system. As a matter of fact, any attempt of Russia on Herat is now discounted by the British position in Seistan and in Baluchistan. From Herat the Russians would have to march to Candahar ; the road is easy but water is scarce. But along two-thirds of the way the British control the road from the right flank, and this is a serious grievance from the Russian point of view.

DOCTOR LEYDS GOES TO RUSSIA.

LONDON, JAN. 31.

Doctor Leyds is going to St. Petersburg.

SEVERANCE OF IRISH NATIONALISTS FROM THE LIBERALS.

The Irish Nationalists have reunited on the basis of Party Independence thus severing their alliance with the Liberals.

THE LORD MAYOR AND THE FAMINE FUND.

Lord George Hamilton has invited the Lord Mayor to co-operate with Lord Curzon in connection with the Famine Fund, India, being the centre of collection.

The Lord Mayor has replied that he will willingly co-operate and that he anticipated a bountiful subscription.

The Lord Mayor's Indian Famine Fund opens on the 16th February.

MILITARY ITEMS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JAN. 31.

Lieutenant Woodward, 1st Dorsets, officiates as Wing Officer, 3rd Bombay Infantry.

Major Souther is appointed second-in-command, with Major Fowler, from 27th Bombay Infantry Wing Commander, to 30th Bombay Infantry.

The First Bengal Infantry is now likely to remain at Mauritius until the beginning of the next relief season, short furlough in the meanwhile being given where practicable to men desiring visit to homes in India.

Lieut. Mc Ardlle, I. M. S., is appointed Surgeon Naturalist, Marine Survey, India.

The War Office has decided that administrative officers of R.A.M.C. on the India establishment will for the fnture be granted leave under rules applying to officers of the British Army. They thus become entitled to passage to and from England on sick leave ; preference will be given in homeward bound troopships sailing in February and March to families of men who have lost their lives in Africa.

The Government of India has ruled that the grant of compensation to Government employes in civil departments for dearness of provisions shall, in future, be at the discretion and under the orders of local Governments and administrations and heads of Imperial departments, subject to general rules fixing the maxima admissible.

The Government of India have approved the extension of 5th, 12th, 17th and 18th Bengal Infantry up to Sutlej, for Hindustan Mahomedans.

AWARD FOR SALVAGE SERVICES.

At the High Court, to-day, Mr. Justice Amir Ali awarded the steam-tugs Hughli and Retriever twenty thousand and thirty thousand rupees respectively, in claim against the steamer Drachenfel for salvage services.

THE HEDJAZ UNSAFE.

The British Consular authorities at Jeddah report a general state of lawlessness there, the roads being unsafe and infested by bands of armed Bedouins who attack caravans, murdering and plundering every one with whom they come in contact. Intending pilgrims to the Hedjaz are consequently warned by the Government of India of the dangers they expose themselves to this year.

MILITARY MANŒUVRES AT POONA.

POONA, JAN. 31.

The Poona force, early yesterday afternoon, were out to make a general attack on the Karakwasla camp. Early this morning the force consisted of the 3rd and 14th Bombay Infantry, 28th Pioneers and two Batteries of Artillery. The 4th Bombay Cavalry was already at the village of Dhayri, awaiting its arrival after a short halt. Colonel Thomas, who commanded the force set out to deliver the attack and the troops started at once, in the morning, and, in an hour's time, the second brigade over the Canal near the 9th milestone was reached. This, for purposes of the fight, was supposed to be blown up. Half-an-hour was allowed to elapse for its repairs. At 2-30 o'clock the bridge was crossed, and the troops moved across the country towards the south-west, in the direction of the village Nanashee. Near the defenders' right E Battery, R.H.A., and the 29th Field Battery took post on a low ridge to the left of the road, and the main body of infantry then continued on its way in darkness. The troops blundered off their course some short distance, but were fortunate enough to discover their error in time. The defending troops, expecting an assault, had in the meantime manned the heights surrounding the Camp, and stood ready to the act of defensive, just about dawn. The attacking regiments surprised and made prisoner a sentry at the foot of the spur, which was their main objective. Several Companies from the 14th Bombay Infantry and the 28th Pioneers then scaled heights dominating Karakwasla village. The remaining regiment in part attacked the knoll, at which the 1st Field Battery was posted, and held the road, against which their right rested. The Artillery opened fire at 3,000 yards, and the Cavalry making a wide tour threatened the defenders' left and there got into trouble. The battlefield covered the front of several miles and could be distinctly outlined in the early morning by smoke hanging over units in the firing line. By seven o'clock most of the companies were told off to scale high spur overhanging Karakwasla. When they accomplished their task, Colonel Bell immediately threw forward a couple of companies to check their further advance, but their presence on the ridge already put out of action the 1st Field Battery, which was on the lower ledge. Had these companies after accomplishing this feat pressed onward they might, it is asserted, easily have swept the ridge clear of the opposing foes from sheer weight of superior numbers. Unfortunately for the result of the contest however, three Companies of the Royal Scots were discovered by them on the lower ledge and some part of the attacking force was, it seems, diverted to turn them out. In attempting to do this the force was exposed to hot cross fire, which was repulsed, while the left attack was thus in a manner successful. The right, however, met with a reverse from the defenders, who had cunningly posted the 16th Field Battery beyond the village of Kurpa, while the 16th Bombay Infantry and two squadrons of the 1st Lancers held Karakwasla village and the main road. Some part of the 4th Bombay Cavalry with reckless haste gained a point within a few hundred yards of the great dam above the village threatening to break through. While thus posted, the defenders became aware and a Company of the 16th Bombay Infantry soon took them in a flank and dropping fire was poured into them by the foremost Infantry men under Lieutenant Morgan, having from behind welcome shelter of some heavy prickly pear bushes, and the Cavalry had to gallop off out of harms' way. The Infantry followed up their success and being backed up shortly after by two squadrons of Lancers and Artillery posted at Kurpa attacked on this flank which was completely repulsed and cease-fire was sounded shortly. From to-days fight it seems that the Poona Force carried out their assault on the camp so well that they might easily in actual warfare have crumbled up the defenders' right and rolled it in their centre. With this feat accomplished, the camp would have lain at their mercy. Unfortunately for them however, unexpected—which generally intervened to spoil all calculations—occurred, and lured by temptation of putting couple of British companies out of action, some part of attacking force descended from its position of vantage and thus in the way neutralised its previous gains. The work accomplished nevertheless was very instructive and will, no doubt, go far towards giving the officers and men experience which is so requisite in preparation for serious business of war. The officers of both the forces were called up by General Burnett to discuss the morning's work which had been most successfully carried out. This practically concluded the cold weather operations and the Regiments returned to their quarters.

THE PANCH MAHALS FAMINE RELIEF.

GODHRA, JAN. 30.

Mr. J. Monteath, I.C.S, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay and Famine Commissioner alighted at Sunth-road on the 28th January, and accompanied by Mr. C. Seddon, the personal assistant to the Collector of the Panch Mahals has been on a visit to the various relief works under his charge. He visited the Godhra-Baroda Chord Railway famine relief work at Ambali Camp this morning, thoroughly enquiring into the condition of the famine-stricken people and inspected all the arrangements in the famine-camps.

SALE OF WORK AT THE BISHOP'S BUNGALOW.

YESTERDAY afternoon, H. E. Lady Sandhurst opened a sale of work at the Bishop's bungalow, Malabar Hill. The sale was organised by the Lord Bishop and Mrs. MacArthur for the purpose of helping the struggling institutions of the Diocese, which are maintained by voluntary effort and are in need of more funds. The premises were prettily decorated and the Governor's band was in attendance. The arrangements were attended to personally by the host and hostess, who were ably assisted by the Rev. Mr. Hatchell, Secretary to the Lord Bishop. About half a dozen stalls were put up for the sale of work and refreshment. The first stall was presided over by H. E. Lady Sandhurst, who was assisted by Mrs. MacArthur, and Mrs. Bowen ; the second was held by Mrs. Edgerley and Mrs. Candy ; the third by Miss MacArthur and Miss Barnet, and the fourth by Miss Agnes MacArthur, the Misses Jehangir Readymoney and Miss Dick. Mrs. Dimmock was in charge of three bran-pies, one for ladies, another for gentlemen, and the third for children. Mrs. and the Misses Thomson and Mrs. Jardine were at the refreshment stall. Her Excellency, who arrived soon after four o'clock, was received by the Lord Bishop and Mrs. MacArther and presented with a beautiful bouquet by Miss Agnes MacArther. His Lordship in formally requesting Her Excellency to open the sale, said that the ladies and gentlemen interested in the evening's proceedings felt very much grateful to Lady Sandhurst for kindly consenting to open the sale and assist them in a practical manner. Although they did not expect to realise a large sum of money by the sale, he was sure that they would have the satisfaction of helping to some extent the institutions which were sorely in need of funds. The institutions for which the appeal was chiefly made, were the orphanages, and he hoped the sale would be as largely patronised, as it deserved to be. It was a matter of great satisfaction to them all to have an opportunity of meeting Lady Sandhurst that evening, as that would be one of the few last evenings which her Excellency could spend with them in Bombay. Before concluding the Lord Bishop thanked his Excellency the Governor for placing his band at their disposal and requested Lady Sandhurst to open the sale. This having been done, the sale commenced and continued till seven in the evening, the sum realised being Rs. 500. The sale will be resumed this afternoon, admission free.

POSTAL IMPROVEMENT AT MALABAR HILL.

FROM to-day, 1st February, there will be seven deliveries of ordinary letters by the Malabar Hill Post Office at the following times, viz :—7 a.m. 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. and three deliveries of registered and bearing letters, parcels and money orders, at 9 a.m. 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. This will give the residents of Malabar Hill a better service than they have hitherto enjoyed and will bring the District into closer touch with the Fort and other parts of Bombay. On Sundays there will also be two deliveries, morning and evening, instead of only one. The number of letters boxes on the Hill has been increased from five to sixteen which will bring the Post Office to the doors of many people, and these boxes will be cleared frequently for local and up-country mails.

THE INDORE STATE COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—As his Highness the Maharaja Holkar, G.C.S.I., has appointed his own council for the administration of the State during the time he has "stepped aside" as your inspired correspondents say, I may be allowed to place before them a few points worth their serious consideration. They are based on what I hear of the constitution and working of the body from the citizens of Indore, among whom I had occasion to move a few days ago. The people of Indore complain that the guaranteed Minister has, as President of the Council, to hear and conduct appeals against his own decisions in the Durbar. Some of the old councillors have been removed and replaced on the recorded ground that "they have as judicial officers to hear appeals against their own decisions" and therefore their presence would prejudice the cause of the appellants. But the same argument is applicable to the Minister, whose decisions "alone" have to be appealed against in each case. Rao Bahadur Bedarkar, B.A., L.L.B., and retired Minister of Indore has now to work as a mere member, while his own former Deputy presides over the Council. This is anomalous. There is no reason why he should not be the President of the Council as he is an experienced officer of the British service and has worked for years as Deputy Registrar of the Bombay High Court, Assistant Reporter to that august Tribunal and has been Small Causes Court Judge at Poona. The present Minister can claim no knowledge of the law and no status in the learned bodies of the country. (2) The present Foreign Secretary has been exercising undue influence, I am told, over the Minister, because he was his law master in the school days of the prospective Minister His own salary has been suddenly augmented from about Rs. 350 to Rs. 500, and the Minister has conferred on him a plural appointment, as Second Judge of the High Court, and yet he holds a position as Member of Council in spite of the recorded minute of the Minister that "judicial functionaries should not hold appointments on that Board, because they have to hear appeals against their own decisions." There is no reason why an exception should be made in case of the late personal friend and law master of the Minister. (3) An old Councillor who refused to come back to Indore when recalled by his Highness the Maharajah, has returned at the invitation of the Minister. It is therefore, natural that he will, in keeping with the servile tendency of the old Hindus, be ever ready to say "Jo-Hukum" to every thing that falls from the lips of his patron. His presence is therefore not advisable on the Board. As to the working. I may be pardoned the liberty of advising such high functionaries and allowed to say, that because the Minister is a guaranteed man, and because he has influence in certain high quarters, there is no reason why each of them should not do his duty like a man. If they only remember that they have to be loyal to the British Government and to conform themselves to the British or civilized system of doing justice, I and you and your British readers can assure them that their independent opinions will be much more respected by his Excellency Lord Curzon and his justice-loving Government than a servile "Jo-Hukumism."—Yours, &c.,

BULL-I-NATH.

Poona, January 27.

A CRIMINAL SLAUGHTER OF STARVING CATTLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Some non-official Europeans and Natives whom I do not know have taken to pound, shilling and pence studies, in collecting large numbers of starving cattle and slaughtering them with a view to drive the eminently practical trade of curing and selling the hides to the leather dealer. The edifying trade brings no doubt a profit to the slaughterers ranging from 300 to 500 p.c., on a rough computation. I think you, Sir, who have written and done something for these our truly domestic help-meets, may bear me out when I call this a trade at once mean and nefarious,—one which will not merely revolt the feelings of the Hindus, but of Parsis and Englishmen alike.

The act may not be so revolting as slaughtering human beings, who are now dying of starvation, and will shortly die by hundreds of thousands, because they cannot be fed, but the skin, bones and hair of the cattle are likely to be of some money value ! Gallows are provided for murderers ; but a merciless slaughter of dumb animals has no illustration in the otherwise exhaustive definition of 'murder' in the Indian Penal Code. For all that, the act is one of the gravest moral obliquity and of atrocious cruelty. Instead of allowing cattle to starve and die, it would be a mercy to apply the axe. But when this is done to enrich oneself—it cannot but excite general indignation, and I hope it may, quickly and effectively.

I am sure the British Revenue Collectors and Commissioners, who have been straining every nerve to combat starvation among men and beasts, will at once step in to stop this wanton, day-light outrage against the defenceless. The various Mahajans and the Presidential and Native Administrations combined might save immense numbers of cattle, and they would be sure to recover the outlay in the next sowing season ; all single or joint-stock enterprises started at this moment of peril would secure similar results, while ensuring the now fast-failing supplies of milk, ghee and butter. I would for my part prefer all the country to be invaded by dairymen from Europe and different parts of India than by butchers, who, without compunction, slaughter dumb animals who cannot complain to the nearest magistrate.

In the midst of a civilised administration the spectacle is simply barbaric and outrageous. The Government of Lord Sandhurst have taken to the sensible course of publishing every week, as suggested, the numbers of cattle dying as well as those suffering from starvation in just the same way that they wisely, unlike other administrations, publish items of all *actual* famine disbursements. It would be a useful act of mercy to notify through the country the whereabouts of starving cattle, which should be allowed to be taken away, for the asking, to districts where individual farmers, landlords and others really require them for farming, milking and carriage purposes. No one is justified in allowing his cattle to die of starvation if there be others to take them up and maintain them ; every private *bona-fide* arrangement of this kind should be freely permitted. The suggestion I offer ; I cannot, Sir, enter into the details of a plan which would preserve our poor and dear cattle.

May I request once more through your paper for information as to the proportion of cattle saved in each affected tract, up to date, on the aggregate number existing in that tract ?—Yours, &c.,

DINSHAW ARDESHIR.

Baroda, Jan. 29.

DEATH OF MR. E. J. SMITH.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. Edward John Smith, for several years the District Grand Secretary of Bombay under the English Constitution, which took place in the fifty-first year of his age, at the residence of his brother Mr. J. W. Smith, Consulting Engineer for Drainage to the Bombay Municipality, at Altamont, Khumballa Hill, on Tuesday evening last. On his first arrival in this country, the deceased gentleman was employed as an assistant in the firm of Messrs. W. Nichol and Co., and did business connected with the British India Steam Navigation Company, which was then under the management of the firm. Mr. Smith subsequently joined the firm of Messrs. John Fleming and Co., as an assistant. Latterly he was employed in the office of the Chief Accountant to the Bombay Municipality. The death of Mr. Smith is a serious loss to Freemasonry. He was for some time Past District Grand Treasurer and since the death of Mr. W. H. Hussey, District Grand Secretary, in June 1895, Mr Smith had been ably conducting his duties until the 30th March 1896, when he was formally installed as District Grand Secretary of Bombay. The deceased was of a very quiet, obliging, and amiable disposition ; and his loss will be deeply mourned by the Masonic fraternity.

NOTES FROM PARIS,

FRANCE AND CHINA.

FRENCH DESIGNS ON MOROCCO.

PARIS, JAN. 12.

THE leading missionary societies in Great Britain, Canada, and the United States are now considering a very important and difficult question connected with their future operations in China. The problem which is not of their seeking, but is rather thrust upon them by the Chinese, arises in this way. For many years the Chinese authorities have bitterly complained that the Roman Catholic missionaries had over the country have claimed the right to interfere with courts of justice and public offices where the position or rights of their converts are concerned, and arrogated to themselves a kind of official status. They have thus led the converts to look upon themselves as independent of their own authorities and as having a position wholly different from and more favoured than the rest of their countrymen. Many competent observers have not hesitated to attribute much of the hatred of native Christians and the consequent persecutions to the feelings of anger and humiliation in local officials and others excited by this claim of the missionaries. Some years ago the late Sir Rutherford Alcock, who was for many years British representative at Pekin, stated that in an interview with Pius IX. shortly after the massacre of Tientsin in 1870 he expressed to His Holiness the opinion that the greater part of the hostility exhibited towards Christian proselytism in China was attributable to this cause. Weak and timid officials gave way to the Roman Catholic missionaries, while vigorous ones repulsed them with more or less scorn and contumely. So keenly did the Chinese resent these claims that about ten years ago they used all their diplomacy at the Vatican and in Berlin and Rome to destroy the claim made by the French to protect all Roman Catholic missionaries in China of whatever nationality, and they succeeded so far that both Germany and Italy declared formally that they would protect all their subjects whether missionaries or not, and both German and Italian missionaries were desired to look to their own and not to French Consuls in future.

But in March last year the French Minister in Pekin succeeded in obtaining a decree from the Empress Dowager to all officials throughout the country requiring them to see, when requested, the Roman Catholic missionaries, to correspond with the latter on equal terms, and generally to transact business with them on the same terms as with regularly accredited foreign officials. A regular scale of respect in ranks was issued in the decree. Bishops could "demand to see" viceroys and Governors of provinces ; vicars general and archdeacons could demand to see local governors and judges ; and so on down to ordinary priests, who could demand to see prefects, magistrates, and all lesser functionaries. In short, the missionaries got in the fullest measure that political and official position and status which they had long claimed, but which had been steadily denied to them by the Chinese Government. This naturally gives them an immense advantage in their work amongst a people like the Chinese, who hate and dread their officials. When a man can secure powerful aid and protection against the tyranny of a local official by merely joining a particular religious body he will promptly join that body, expecially when he is thereby placed in a much more favourable position than the rest of his neighbours. If he thinks the local taxing officers are claiming a little to much from him or the judge is about to decide a suit against him or to inflict a sharp sentence on him for some offence, he and his friends straightway invoke the aid of the missionary, and the local governor, judge, and the rest of the authorities must see the missionary on his demand and grant his request on peril of having a complaint made against them by the bishop, who "demands to see" the Viceroy at the provincial capital, or by the French Minister in Pekin. Thus a formidable proselytising engine is placed in the hands of the Roman Catholic missionaries. Not long ago a local governor in North China, worried beyond endurance no doubt, by the missionaries with their representations as to the members of their flock, actually memorialised the Empress Dowager to order all native Christians of whatever denomination to wear a distinctive dress as like European garments as possible, with the object, no doubt, that the local authorities should know them at a glance and act in regard to them on Dogberry's advice to the watch. Thus the native Christian is in a different political and legal position from the mass of his countrymen ; his obedience is not due to the local authorities, but to the missionary, and if he comes into conflict with the former he looks to his priest to back him up and get him out of the scrape.

The Chinese, however, with their usual aim of playing off one European body against another, whether it be Government or traders, have offered the same privilege to Protestant missionaries of all denominations, and is said to be anxious that it should be accepted by them. At first sight this would seem an offer which the missionaries would eagerly seize, not only to improve their position and that of their converts, but also in order to be placed, for the purpose of their labours, on equal terms with their rivals. Nevertheless it is the fact that very many—perhaps a majority—of those concerned are against accepting the proffered boon. Protestant missionaries have always held that the Roman Catholic claim to official privileges was highly detrimental to mission work, for the reasons mentioned above ; but now that they have been granted to one religious body the position and the feeling is by no means so unanimous. The reasons against accepting them are that it would place missionaries in a false position, and one hostile to the true interests of mission enterprise. It must inevitably lead to the hostility and opposition in every direction of the officials, the so-called literati and gentry, or local leaders, in every district throughout the land, and make the name of Christian to reek in the nostrils of the whole Chinese race. Already there have been cases in which gross injustice has been done to non-Christian Chinese through the official dread of quarelling with the local missionaries. Besides, there is in many quarters the feeling that the members of the Protestant Churches should take their stand on their rights as ordinary citizens. It is argued that this policy would pay tenfold in a country like China in the goodwill and favour of officials as well as of the non-Christian Chinese. On the other hand, there is, as has been said, the natural anxiety to be on equal terms, and between these conflicting views the great missionary bodies at home must decide. Meanwhile in many districts the Chinese Government has issued orders that in respect of the privilege of audience, as well as in all other respects, Protestant and Roman Catholic missionaries are to have precisely the same treatment.

The promptitude with which the Governor of Algeria sent a flying column under Captain Baumgarten to support the Flamant Mission in the occupation of Insalah is thought to have averted the possibility of any fresh attack on the mission, and there is great rejoicing in Paris over the unexpected settlement of a question which has long occupied the attention of the expansionist party. The rumours as to French designs on Morocco and the undoubted military activity on the eastern frontier of Algeria might predispose us to the opinion that this occupation of the oasis of Insalah, which is an integral part of the Tidikeelt district, was not quite so unexpected as it is represented to have been ; but it does really seem that in this particular instance France has achieved what has long been an object of her ambition rather by a lucky chance than of set design. There have, in fact, been two opposing opinions as to the means that were required to take possession of this string of oases, which is perhaps best known by the name of Tuat. A dashing cavalry officer who is at present attached to the military household of the Governor of Algeria offered to take and hold the oasis with a picked body of fifty men mounted on camels, but there were other authorities who declared that a military expedition on a large scale would be necessary. At present the advocates of the former plan are naturally elated at the fact that the military escort of a scientific mission has been able to take possession of the oasis. But the rapidity with which reinforcements are being hurried up shows that the Algerian authorities are quite alive to the possibility of further trouble. As a matter of fact, so little is really known about the district that the estimates of population vary between 30,000 and 300,000. The importance of Tuat is that it is the centre from which the Tuaregs of the Western Soudan draw their supplies, and it is obvious that its possession will give the French an immense advantage in

dealing with the question of the Sahara. But it is also obvious that the Tuaregs will not see their principal source of supplies closed to them without making an attempt to recover it, and it is more than probable that ere long we shall be hearing of some stiff fighting around Tuat.

The manager of "La Caricature" was tried on Wednesday afternoon for the publication of a drawing which was, perhaps, the most infamous of all the pictorial insults of which the Queen has been the object in the French comic papers. The man was acquitted, as was the personage who perpetrated the caricature. The charge brought against the offenders was such that this result was almost a foregone conclusion. It was open to the authorities to proceed against the paper on two grounds—for having insulted a foreign Sovereign, or for having printed an obscene drawing. The latter was the charge selected. There can be no two opinions about the character of the caricature, but the licence here in this matter is so great that the prisoner's counsel could argue with some truth, and at any rate with success, that the drawing was no worse than those habitually published without let or hindrance. It may be suspected that the authorities were not surprised at the acquittal, but from their point of view there were serious objections to bringing the alternative charge of insulting a foreign Sovereign. A verdict of guilty would almost certainly have been returned had this course been adopted, but the verdict would have aroused such a tempest of indignation that the pusillanimity of the authorities, however little it may be to their credit, is comprehensible. There would have been cries of a "newspaper Fashoda," and the recent envenomed controversy would have been reopened under really dangerous conditions. It is deplorable that this should be the state of things, but the action of the authorities was certainly dictated by the desire to avert a highly disagreeable incident.

The death of M. Gaujean last Monday, at the age of 50, is an event which will cause deep regret here as well as in Paris, where it occurred. He has been recognised all over Europe as a master of etching, with a style peculiarly his own, and it is not easy to see who can take his place. Waltner taught him much of his art—though he was a pupil also of Pils—but his method was more precise than Waltner's. One refers him rather to Albert Durer, whose precision he admired and, in his work, reproduced. Here in England he has been popular for years, popular, that is, with the few rather than with the many; for his eclectic art would only appeal to the more fastidious judges. It was anetching after Van Eyck, "The Virgin, St. George, and St. Donatius," that not only brought him into notice here first, but placed him in the highest rank of his profession. This was followed by an etching of Mr. J. H. Henshall's "Ebony and Pearl," a commission from Mr. Lucas, which takes its place amongst the finest work produced by the etching needle for many years. He has interpreted many English masters and always sympathetically. Amongst his works may be mentioned Mr. Frank Dicksee's "Vows," three small plates after Fred Walker, one after Sir Thomas Lawrence, and The Lady Peggy Primrose, one of the most engaging of Millais' child portraits. His last work was finished only a few months ago, and has not yet been published. It is after Mr. Henry Rheam's "Spirit of Christianity," which hung on the walls of the '98 Academy.

NAGPUR NOTES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NAGPUR, JAN.

PLAGUE is still making its presence felt in Nagpur. Some wise people have gone into segregation camps, where they are enjoying a perfect immunity from the dread pestilence. The Nagpur city shows a slight increase on last week. There is also a proportionate increase in Sitabuldi. It is earnestly hoped that the advent of the hot weather next month will counteract the pestilence. The following are the plague figures between the 20th and 26th instant, both days inclusive :—

	Attacks.	Deaths.	Suspicious.
20th January	6	6	3
21st do	6	7	0
22nd do	2	2	2
23rd do	7	7	0
24th do	4	4	2
25th do	6	4	2
26th do	11	12	1
	42	42	10

It is noticed from the mortality returns of the Health Officer that the total number of deaths registered in Nagpur during the week ending 20th January was 143 against 140 and 158 in the two preceding weeks and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 84. There was one death from small-pox during the week against nil in the previous week. The mortality from plague fevers and bowel complaint amounted to 38, 34 and 13 respectively against 42, 38 and 15 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 66·2 per mille per annum against 53·2, the mean of the last three years. The total number of deaths registered was 86. The ratio of births was 38·3 per mille per annum. Universal sympathy is felt at the serious illness of Mr. E. Penny, Superintending Engineer of these Provinces, who is now an inmate of the Medical College of Calcutta, under the treatment of Dr. G. F. Harris, who is waiting to take Mr. Penny home, sailing on the 10th February next. Owing to failing health brought about by the arduous duties, Mr. and Mrs. Sharman, the head-master and head-mistress of the local Bishop's School, have submitted their resignation to the school committee, who have accepted them with much reluctance and regret. The committee will experience some difficulty to replace the services of the retiring head-master and mistress, whose uninterrupted service as teachers extends over a period of nearly fifteen years, during the course of which they have even taken a deep interest in the progress of the school. The committee, the parents, and their friends heartily wish Mr. and Mrs Sharman a speedy recovery and the school committee we are pleased to say, have decided upon giving them a bonus of Rs. 500 The committee are trying to secure the services of a graduate of one of the Universities as Head Master. The Bishop School has a boarding-house attached to it, and there are a number of children from far and near as boarders, and the committee should be careful in engaging the services of a married headmaster who will be able jointly to carry the duties on the same line as Mr. and Mrs. Sharman did.

The Chief Commissioner, Mr. A. H. I. Fraser, received a deputation of the members of the Anjaman-e-Hamie-Islam Nagpur, on the 17th January, to present an address of welcome on behalf of the Mahomedan community here. Khan Sahib Mahamud Amir Khan, after introducing the Members to the Chief Commissioner Professor M. A. Hakuni read the address which was very elaborately got up and which dwelt upon the past and the present valuable services Mr. Fraser had formerly rendered as Chief Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, an office which he now himself filled. Mr. Fraser replied to the address in suitable terms.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Russell presided at a sitting of the court yesterday.

RE ARTIN ESSAJEE.

On the application of Mr. Rivett-Carnac, the examination of the insolvent was postponed for a fortnight.

RE RANCHORDAS LADHA.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, applied for an interim order and leave to serve notices. Mr. Macpherson, for a creditor, consented to the matter being adjourned for a week, without protection, which was granted with leave to serve notices.

RE DEVICHAND KRISHNAJEE.

Mr. Manker, for the insolvent, was granted an interim order.

RE GOOLAM ALI MAHOMED SAYA.

Mr. Raikes, for the insolvent, was given leave to amend his client's schedule.

RE RAMJEE MULJEE.

On the application of Mr. Manker, for a creditor, his lordship directed that counsel's client's costs of certain hearings should be paid out of assets in the hands of the Official Assignee.

RE VITHALDAS GOVINDRAM.

Mr. Manker obtained a similar order for payment of costs in the above matter.

RE ADARJEE NUSSERWANJI.

On the application of Mr. Ardasir Kapadia, the insolvent was granted an interim order.

RE ABDULALLI ESSUFBHOY.

Mr. Starling said the insolvent had filed a schedule which did not set forth his accounts in the proper form.

Mr. Raikes having intimated that his client was quite ready to do so, the matter was adjourned for a fortnight.

SMOKE RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

THE weekly meeting of the Committee was held in the Municipal Hall, yesterday, when Dr. N. N. Katrak presided and there were also present Mr. T. W. Cuffe, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Dr. A.G. Viegas, Messrs. Mir Aun Ali, K. N. Wadia, Dr. Ismail Jan Mahomed, Messrs. K N. Kabraji, Fazulbhoy Visram, and Muljee B. Barbhaya.

REVENUE AND REFUND AUDIT DEPARTMENT.

The Committee considered the following letter from the Commissioners dated 29th ult., regarding an increase to the Revenue and Refund Audit Department :—

"The Revenue and Refund Audit Officer has brought to my notice that owing to very heavy exports of grain in consequence of the famine, the number of claims for refund of Town Duty has increased so largely since October last, and more especially from the beginning of the current month, that it is now absolutely beyond the capacity of his Department to cope with the heavy work, and, as a consequence, the work is falling largely into arrears. I therefore consider it necessary to employ the following establishment to cope with the work for a period of six months :—

Personal allowance to the Examiner of Town duty Refund claims	Rs.	100 per month
1 Deputy Examiner at	"	100 " "
1 Checking Clerk at	"	40 " "
2 Calculation Clerks at Rs 30 each	"	60 " "
1 Registration Clerk at	"	25 " "
1 Extra Clerk for the Chief Accountant's Office	"	35 " "
	Rs.	360 " "
Stationery and Contingencies	"	5 " "

Rs. 365 × 6 = 2,190 or say Rs. 2,200

and request the sanction of the Standing Committee and the Corporation to the proposal, the expenditure of Rs. 2,200 being defrayed from surplus cash balance.

Dr. Viegas said it was a matter of notoriety that there were dishonest practices in the Town Duty Department; and if the collection, which was now in the hands of other persons, were entrusted to Municipal employes, the practices complained of would cease. Dr. Viegas thought it was an important matter for the Commissioner to consider whether they could not manage the department themselves for a period of six months as an experimental measure. Dr. Viegas expressed his intention to bring forward a motion to that effect before the Corporation. Meantime, he now moved that the Commissioner's letter be forwarded to the Corporation with the recommendation of the Committee that, in the circumstances mentioned, sanction be given to a grant of Rs. 2,200 to meet the cost of the extra establishment.

Mr. K. N. Wadia seconded the proposition; and the sanction asked for was granted.

A PETITION FROM VICTORIA WALLAS.

The Committee considered memorandum from the Commissioner, forwarding a letter to his address from the President and Secretary, Bombay Hack Victoria Owners' Association, who requested that in view of the plague, which was "raging more furiously than in any of the preceding years," and the famine, "the sorest of the century," the wheel tax on victorias be wholly, or if not wholly, at least partially, remitted, as was done in the year 1896-97.

It was resolved to inform the Commissioner that the Standing Committee saw no necessity for making any reduction in the compounded rates, approved under their resolution of December last.

ANOTHER FROM CART-DRIVERS.

The committee next discussed the following letter addressed to the Commissioner by the cart-drivers of Bombay :—

"We beg most respectfully to inform your honour that we are owners of labour carts. There is a famine at our native country, and some of our bullocks died, and some were dying, so we came to Bombay with our carts and bullocks; here also we are so unfortunate that we hardly get one rupee a day, and here also we, our families and children and bullocks, are starving. Your honour is generous and very kind on poor people. We, therefore, most humbly and respectfully request that your honour will kindly reduce wheel-tax of our labour carts for the current year (*viz.*, half), for which act of kindness we, our families, children and bullocks, who are starving, will pray to God for your honour's long life and prosperity."

It was resolved that the Standing Committee approved under section 185 of the Municipal Act of the Commissioner compounding with the owners of the labour carts for the payment of wheel-tax for the year 1900.

THE QUALITY OF OUR DRINKING WATER.

The Committee considered the following letter from the Divisional Health Officer No. 1 Division :—"I have the honour to submit the attached analytical report on the Bombay water with the following remarks :—

Tulsi Water.—There is a notable increase in the amount of free ammonia, an increase in the albumenoid ammonia and in the chloride in sample No. 1 showing that there is an increasing impurity in the source of supply at Malabar Hill. This is supported by the analysis of sample No. 6, in which may be noted an increase in the amount of albumenoid ammonia since the last analysis.

Tansa Water.—A comparison of the analysis of samples Nos. 7, 8 and 9, show that the straining at Ghat Cooper does not appreciably improve the water. Basing my opinion on these figures, I cannot say that I consider the Tansa water fit for use as drinking water. The filtered Vehar water No. 4 is the only sample of water submitted to analysis this month, which can be considered absolutely above suspicion. Both the Tansa and Tulsi waters show signs of increasing impurity from vegetable sources. Such water, if used for drinking water, will certainly give rise to dyspeptic and diarrhœic troubles and prepare the way, should the cholera bacillus be present in Bombay, to an epidemic of cholera (I note that there is at present a good deal of dysentery and diarrhœa in the Fort). It seems to me that all the water supplied to Bombay should be filtered before issue. Although the bacteriological examination of the water does not detect the presence of pathogenic organisms, the chemical analysis certainly shows that the Bombay water at present affords a suitable medium for the growth of pathogenic bacteria should they by any accident find their way into the water-supply."

The Committee requested the Commissioner to report what steps might be taken to improve the condition of the water.

After transacting some other business, the committee adjourned.

THANA NEWS.

OUR local correspondent, writing on Tuesday, says :—Mr. Jairam Balkrishna Pardhan Sheristedar to the District Judge of Nassick, has been appointed as Head Clerk in the office of the Sessions Judge of Thana, vice Mr. Malharrao Narayan Patke, transferred to the Deccan, last week.—A fire broke out at the village of Bhalegaon in Mangaon Taluka and several houses belonging to Kunbi cultivators together with their property were burnt down a few days ago. The estimated loss of the cultivators' property is about Rs. 3,000.—Junia Naik, a notorious dacoit of Shapoor Taluka in Thana, who committed depredations in the Thana and Kolaba Districts during 1899 and murdered a watchman named Rama Katadi on the Bhore Ghat a few days ago, has been captured with his accomplices very dexterously, in Karjat Taluka, by Rao Saheb Ramjee Pandoo (the well-known Police Officer in the Poona murder case of the late Mr. Rand) and Azam Bidkar, chief constable of Karkola last week.—It is stated that according to the suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner Northern Division, several boys of all the schools in Thana will have to be vaccinated, shortly, except those who have undergone the operations. About half a dozen deaths from small-pox now occur here every week.—Rao Bahadur Sakharam Chimnajee Joshi, Divisional Magistrate of Kalyan in Thana, has been promoted to Fifth Grade District Deputy Collector. Rao Saheb Bhave, Sheristedar to the District Judge of Satara, has been appointed Clerk of the Court in the Court of the Session Judge of Thana in place of Mr. Sakharam Bhaskar Choubal, who was transferred to the Central Division last week.—The thermometer readings ranged from 68 to 82 degrees in shade at Thana, yesterday.

YACHT CLUB SAILING RACES.

SATURDAY'S PROGRAMME.

Ship's boats (any rig) handicap race, to start at 3 p.m. Course No. 8.

Yachts (class A) handicap race—Start at 3·15. Course No. 9 reversed.

Tomtit class race, to start at 3-20. Course No. 8.

Yachts (class B) handicap race to be held provided at least three boats be entered. Start at 3-30. Course No. 8.

Entries for all the above races will close at noon on Friday.

PASSENGERS PER S. S. SINGAPORE.

THE following is the list of passengers per Italian steamer Singapore, Captain E. Pizzarelo, sailing today. Passengers are requested to be on board not later than 8-30 :—

FOR GENOA.

Mrs J Phillimore		Revd Rockwell Clancy	
2 children and nurse	European	Mrs Clancy and child	
Mr Willhelm Butscher		Revd R D Price	
Revd J W Levaux		Mrs Price and 1 child	
Mrs C Aron		Mr Henry Horneitz	
Mr Mauro Da Pradi	Antonio	Mr Miglietti Guseppe and 4 deck passengers	

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE FAMINE.

JHALAWAR STATE.

ON Jan. 22nd, Captain Stratton laid the foundation stone of the Khandya Bund, which forms the first of a series of irrigation works, which it is contemplated to start in Jhalawar for the relief of the poor. It is situated half way between the towns of Jhalrapatan and Chaoni; and the construction of the Bund, besides irrigating the lands lower down, and raising the water level of the adjoining wells, will also prove of great use to the people who daily frequent the 'pukka' road between the two towns.

The Raj Ran, in the course of an appropriate speech, asked Captain Stratton to perform the ceremony, which having been accomplished he made a short speech. He said :—I am pleased that I have been able, in accordance with your expressed wish, to lay the foundation stone of the Bund of this Tank, before my departure on furlough. The project is one which has by your Highness's direction been started at a time of scarcity, and is thus doubly useful in that it now provides work for persons in need, and will eventually retain the overflow from the Gaonri Tank which hitherto has run to waste. Before proceeding to lay the foundation stone I will read some remarks about the scheme which Mr. Tickell, the State Engineer, has been kind enough to furnish me with—"This is a small tank proposed to be constructed on the Khandya Khal Nullah to the west of the road from Chaoni to Jhalrapatan. The catchment area is 1 3-4square miles. The Bund, 2,100 feet long, is partly of earth and partly of masonry, about fourteen feet deep in the deepest part. The volume of water that the tank will contain when full is nearly 60 million cubic feet, of which about 58 million cubic feet will be available for irrigation. About 50 acres of land can be irrigated by flow irrigation and about double this with lift-irrigation. The estimated cost of the Bund is Rs. 7,500, and if only fifty acres of land are irrigated by flow the revenue at Rs. 5 an acre would be Rs. 225, or 3 per cent. on the expenditure. If 100 acres are also watered by lift-irrigation the return would be 6 per cent. in addition. Owing to the small extent of the catchment area the tank is not one that can be relied on to fill every year, but the principal recommendations in favour of the Tank are :—(1) It is in a fertile and populous locality; (2) The extent of the Tank is large in proportion to the cost of the Bund; (3) There is large traffic between the city and the Chaoni of Jhalrapatan, and the Tank provides water in a place where it is much needed for travellers and cattle." And further, on my own part, I would repeat that the building of this Bund has found employment daily for some time past for three or four hundred people, at a time when famine relief was beginning to be needed. I hope, your Highness, this Tank will be a very successful and useful one; that it will always hold a good supply of water, and prove of great benefit to your people.

BOMBAY, RACES 1900.

ADDITIONAL RACES FOR 1ST DAY, SATURDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1900.

1. The Mahaluxmi Stakes—Rs. 1000 out of which 2nd receives Rs. 100, and 3rd Rs. 50. Handicap for horses which have not won race value Rs. 2000 since 1st August 1899. Handicap to be published by S. A. M. on Thursday 8th February—Distance 6 furlongs.

2. The Fort Stakes—Rs. 1050 out of which 2nd receives Rs. 100 and 3rd Rs. 50. Handicap for Arab and C. B. Horses. Handicap to be published by S. A. M. on Thursday 8th February—Distance 7 furlongs.

Entry for above Races.

Monday 5th February Rs. 30, Wednesday 7 February Rs. 50 and Rs. 20 more if not struck out by 12 noon on Thursday 8th February, 1900.

With less than 6 entries in bona fide separate inte ests stewards reserve the right to declare race void.

Terms programme, Bombay Races, 19.0. Apply.

CECIL GRAY.
Bombay, 31st January, 1900. Secretary, W. I. T. C.

DIVINE SERVICE.

SAINT THOMAS' CATHEDRAL.

Thursday, 1st February.

Vigil of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
6 p.m.—Evensong, Choral.

Friday, 2nd—Festival of the Purification.
6-45 a.m.—Matins.
7-15 a.m.—Holy Communion, Choral.
4-45 p.m.—Evensong.

ST. PETER'S, MAZAGON.

Thursday, 8 p.m.—Choral, Evensong, Preacher, Rev. Fr. Nicholson.
Friday, 7 a.m.—Choral Eucharist.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, COLABA,
Afghan Memorial Church.

7-30 a.m.—Matins.
8 a.m. Holy Communion.
5 p.m.—Evensong.

ALL SAINT'S, MALABAR HILL.

7-30 a.m.—Matins and Holy Eucharist.

February 4th—5th Sunday after Epiphany.

7-30 a.m.—Matins and Holy Eucharist.
6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

PASSENGERS PER S. S. IMPERATRIX.

THE following is the list of passengers proceeding per Austrian Lloyds s. s. Imperatrix, Captain G. Nicolich for Trieste and Venice, this (Thursday) morning, from Victoria dock No. 3. Medical examination at the dock at 9-30 a.m. :—

Mr and Mrs T Gordon Walker	Mr L D Petrochino
Mr and Mrs Waldedich and 2 children	Mr H S Petrochino
Mr and Mrs Bode 2 children and infant	Mr M Zalichi
Mr and Mrs Apostolides and 2 infants	Mr Patoumas
Mrs Ramsden Price	Mr T G Cumming
Lt Col P A Buckland	Mr A Rogers
Dr G Modigliani	Mr Roftopulo
	Mr J N Drossos
	Mr S Pellonio
	Lt Patton Brown

THE WEATHER.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 8 A.M., ON WEDNESDAY THE 31ST OF JANUARY, 1900.

SUMMARY.

There has been a brisk fall of pressure at Agra, Cawnpore, Jhansi, Jeypore and Saugor, and a slight rise or fall elsewhere. Readings are highest in the north and lowest in the south. Gradients are moderate to slight. Winds are north-easterly at most of the reporting stations and the force has been fresh to light.

A few cases excluded, the temperature both maximum and minimum continues to be in excess of the mean of the season in all districts. The highest temperature in the shade was 95° at Sholapur and the lowest 40° at Jacobabad.

Humidity changes are very irregular and the skies are cloudy to overcast in the North-West Provinces and at Ajmere, Neemuch, Jubbulpore, Raipur, Madras, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Negapatam. About a quarter of an inch of rain has fallen at Allahabad and 0·10 cents at Colombo. The weather conditions are slightly favourable for local rain in the North-West Provinces.

G. L. TOWERS
Meteorological Reporter for Western India.

(BY TELEGRAPH.)

SIMLA, JAN. 30.

Wednesday's barometrical report show that the pressure has fallen slightly to briskly in the Punjab, Rajputana, North-Western Provinces; has risen slightly to briskly in Chota Nagpur and Bihar, and has changed by small amounts elsewhere. A shallow depression is this morning lying over the Bandelkhand and the adjacent districts. Light showers slightly exceeding a tenth of an inch have been received at Satna, Allahabad, Banares, Gorakhpur and Gaya, and half-an-inch at Pachmarhi. Mean temperature is normal in Sind, Gujarat, West Coast and in excess elsewhere. The excess is largest in Central Provinces, Berar, Chota Nagpur, Bihar, Bengal, and North-West Provinces, where it ranges from five to nine degrees. Cloud has increased in East Punjab and North-West Provinces and easterly winds are setting in over the Gangetic plain.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 30th January, 1900.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m., and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 dex. Fah.	inches 29·932
Temperature of the Air	degrees 73·4
Wet Bulb Thermometer	67·0
Dew Point	53·7
Relative humidity of Air	0·727
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded = 10) ...	0·0
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day	degrees 80·2
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	65·8
General Directions of wind*	E, ENE, W, WNW.
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles 133

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists

PEN PICTURES OF THE WAR.

A FURTHER BATCH OF VIVID STORIES.

A LETTER which has been received from a medical officer attached to Lord Methuen's force gives a vivid picture of the horrors and discomforts of the campaign. As to the discomforts, for instance : We arrived at the camping ground late in the afternoon. We commandeered a bullock, slew it, and fed. There was plenty of water here, and it was a relief to get a bit of a wash. What an intense joy it is to find some pure cool water. I sometimes dream of a cool drink. We have simply been pigging it. They say Omdurman and the Tirah were gentlemanly campaigns compared with this. We have gone days without a wash, and our drinking water has been like coffee grounds, full of mud. Both men and officers who have been on active service before say they are heartily sick of it.

UNDER FIRE: "A KIND OF SOLEMN DISREGARD."

And as to the horrors : A lot of the North Lancashire men were frightfully wounded. I turned over a sergeant, black in the face, dead. One man was brought to me who had been struck by a shell fragment—face mutilated throat cut, and chest lacerated. O God ! the sight was sickening; blood everywhere. Very few of our men being wounded, I went out near sunset to aid the Highlanders. They had been lying all day under that frightful sun, and their wounded were still there. No stretcher-bearers could advance, as they were all shot at. They shouted to me to crawl on the ground, as though most of the firing was over, there were still three or four Boers, with express rifles and explosive bullets, who were under cover, and who kept picking off our men. Some men utterly collapsed, and all I could do was to put a pal to their wounds and my whisky flask to their lips. I then crawled back to my horse and made my way to some ambulances two miles distant in order to get their aid. I was under fire all the time, bullets dancing round me. I felt a kind of solemn disregard, as I had been exposed to greater dangers before.

"WE HAD A ROUGH TIME OF IT."

From a private in the 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment, who was wounded at Belmont : As soon as I am well again I expect they will send me back to the front to join my regiment, but I hope I shall not see another fight the same as I saw at Belmont. They are treating us well in hospital, the food being good. It is a sight to see the wounded. There are 700 patients and several funerals every day of poor fellows that die from their wounds. . . . Our food at the front was very bad, and I can tell you we had a rough time of it. The day of the fight we had nothing but a drink of water in our water-bottles, and nothing it. We were all fairly done up. I got nothing until next morning, when I received in hospital some bread and milk. It went down good.

A MARK FOR BOER BULLETS.

The following is from a letter written by a sergeant in the Coldstream Guards (Police-constable Pendered, of the Wolverhampton Police Force, Army Reservist), who is with Methuen's column. He was at the battle of Modder River, and says : During the afternoon someone seemed to have spotted me from the trenches. First a shot struck the side of my boot and struck my rifle just in front of my face, filling my eyes with dirt and splinters. I rose up a little when another shot struck the middle finger of my left hand. I had got on my knees when a bullet struck me fair in the chest on the buckle of my haversack, breaking it through the centre and causing a slight puncture of the skin and bruising my chest. Have been congratulated as being luckiest beggar in my battalion.

INCIDENTS OF THE KIMBERLEY SIEGE.

A special correspondent of the "Cape Argus" has been sending some interesting particulars from Kimberley of various incidents of the siege. Here is an extract : On Saturday, November 4, the alarm went again, but still the day passed off peacefully, and it was not until the evening that it was known that the Boers had sent in a message to Colonel Kekewich, which while not being made public, it was generally believed demanded the surrender of Kimberley by 6 a.m., on Monday morning. The nature of the Commanding Officer's reply can be very well guessed. Sunday, which, curiously enough, was November 5, was naturally a day anxiety, as it was thought the Boers might not wait until Monday morning, and everybody was expecting the alarm to sound. Nor were they disappointed in this respect, for at a few minutes past four, just as a concert by the combined bands of the Lancashire Regiment and the Griqualand West Brigade was about to commence, surely enough the alarm went, and everybody made for their homes helter-skelter, believing that this time the long-expected attack was coming. However like the alarms of Friday and Saturday, nothing followed.

A FARCICAL BOMBARDMENT.

The correspondent continues : What however, will probably be handed down in the annals of history to Boer posterity as the bombardment of Kimberley probably occurred on Tuesday, November 7, and if ever the farcical element were introduced into such a serious business as war, the puerile attempt to raze Kimberley can surely lay claim to it. The Boers had two guns mounted, one at Scholz Nek, trained on the Premier Mine at Wesselton, at a range of something like 3,500 yards, and the other on Spytfontein, quite 7,000 yards distant. A couple of shots were fired between five and six o'clock in the morning; but then the Boers desisted until about ten, when one gun at Scholz Nek, apparently a nine-pounder, fired a French shell, aimed at Wesselton. The fire, however, proved quite harmless, nearly all the shots falling in the debris heaps, and our guns at Wesselton replying and quickly getting the range, induced the enemy to cease firing, and they cleared off about noon. . . . So little was thought of the Boer fire that the alarm was not even sounded, and business was carried on just the same. Thus ended the bombardment of Kimberley. So little alarm did it cause that men in the redoubts were actually playing cricket and quoits while it was going on.

SCRAMBLING FOR SHELL FRAGMENTS.

This seems to have become a favourite amusement at Kimberley : It was perfectly humorous to watch some hundreds of coloured youngsters all over the veldt as Newton scrambling for the fragments of shell. As soon as the smoke of the discharge was seen they all lay down flat, watching to see where the shell would pitch, and then made a rush to the spot to collect the pieces, which in the early part of the day had a marketable value, insignificant bits fetching a tickey or sixpence while one extra special piece found by a member of the Salvation Army was purchased by a prominent member of the Kimberley Club for as much as a "fiver." This writer confirms other reports as to the indifferent character of the Boer shells, few of them doing any damage whatever.

FROM THE BOER POINT OF VIEW.

Here is a bit from a description of the departure for the front of a Boer commando published in the "Standard" and Diggers' News" : The parade of 400 sturdy warriors of the Police Commando excited admiration. The Afrikander men have received their mandate from their women-folk, though the shadow of Elandslaagte hung like a pall upon the mourning robes of many. Venerable old dames in kappes and maids in chintz and babies of all ages, upon whom the warriors showered a valedictory benison clung and struggled fiercely round the carriages. Withered tantes buxom vrouws, and frail nichatjes tumbled over each other for a final embrace. It was admitted that no finer or more serviceable force had been sent off. By the time it gets to the Natal border it will be 800 strong. It is under the Commandant of Police Mr. Gert M. J. van Dam, with Lieutenants Oosthuiz n Pohlman, Murphy and Jacobz next in command. Mr. C. D. Schutz addressed the men : "You are going to defend your rights, your liberty, and your independence, that dearly-bought independence. God has granted you, and which is once again contested. You are not going to fight for honour, or money, or mercenary ambition, or sordid gain."

A LITTLE TOO SANGUINE.

Thomas Strong, a soldier in the "Fighting Fifth," who was in the Belmont engagement, sends a rather too sanguine letter to a friend on Wearside, containing the following : I got a bullet wound in my thigh, so I am now in the hospital, and stopped from fighting for a bit. I am, however, able to get about the ward with the aid of a stick. My regiment is in Kimberley by now, where I hope soon to join them. After that they go to Mafeking, where there will be another lot of fighting.

A NATION IN ARMS.

As to the fighting which had already taken place the "News" says : Never before has the fire of the Boers been more deadly, and never before have they shown greater courage in facing the foe. Never has the martial spirit prevailed among the Boers as now, and never have they been more united. It surprises South Africa, it astonishes the world. . . . Johannesburg, with its marts, its exchanges, its mines and money-making, had become so accustomed to think it was the Transvaal, that it had forgotten the outside facts, and lost sight of the remoter regions the rising generation, able distant homestead, the spirit of land and people, and it is amazed to find that the back country can fend its hundreds and thousands of resolute men in the field and can muster an army fit and well-found at all points and in all things. The awakening is now complete. At a given signal the Republic is found in arms. The quiet official, pursuing his placid calling of yesterday is converted into a formidable soldier; the member of the Executive becomes a fighting general, the clerks of departments are found in the saddle, the bandolier covers the breast of a man of pastoral pursuits, and in the twinkling of an eye the nation is in the field and stands to its guns, and proves itself no amateur but an adept in arms, fatal in action, unerring in aim, and all-sufficient in strategy.

A BOER PRISONER'S TRIBUTE.

Private George Drakar, 2nd Coldstream Guards writes from Wynberg Hospital, Capetown : I told you that at Belmont we couldn't see one of them unless we had fought through the fire up to their trenches then when we see them and are eager to fight man to man, they poke up a white flag. They are not fit to be called men. About five in the afternoon I got hit. I had just put my hand up to my helmet to throw it back ready for another shot, when a bullet struck through my left hand. I don't think they will last out much longer. One of the Boer prisoners said to me after the Belmont battle, "The more we fire on you the faster you come on !" They were astonished and disappointed because we didn't run away !

"ISMORE" DISASTER: TROOPS' SPLENDID DISCIPLINE.

One of the soldiers rescued from the wrecked transport "Ismore" writes : The most satisfactory part of the whole business has been the splendid behaviour of all the troops. They were as steady and as quiet as if we were parading the barrack square. Every man stood in his proper place. There was not the slightest confusion or hurry, and they did exactly as they were told. There is not the least doubt that it is owing to their splendid discipline that all were saved. Had there been the slightest panic a dreadful loss of life must have occured, as getting the boats of was a most difficult business, owing to the heavy swell, and when they were launched they leaked, so that half-an hour's baling had to be done before we dared let them start. Everything had to be done by the soldiers as the ship's crew were all employed in trying to shut the watertight door to keep the sea out of the engine-room. If it had got in there before the fires were put out a fearful explosion would have occurred, and the ship would have been blown in half.

"THEY MAKE RINGS ROUND US."

In a letter written to his father from Mool River on November 23, an officer in the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment says : Against an enemy like the Boers Infantry are useless. The Boers have spies everywhere, and as they are all well mounted they can move away hours before our Infantry can get with striking distance. On the other hand they will never attack and when we advance towards Pretoria commandos will be left all over the country looting and burning farms. The only people who have a chance with them are the local Volunteers. If the Government would only raise about 2 000 Volunteers and send out a lot of Mounted Infantry, who could work with the local Volunteers, these isolated Boer forces would soon be wiped out. At present we are helpless, as they make rings round us.

Writing after Mool River Camp had been isolated, he says : We are quite helpless. A force of Infantry, which could only march about fifteen miles a day, would be made circles round by these mounted Boers, who move forty or fifty miles in a day. It is also impossible to ascertain their strength, as in one day they can be reinforced from as far as Ladysmith.

Till we can get a lot of irregular mounted men (concludes the writer) who can fight and manœuvre with the Boers' tactics, we shall have to sit here.

RUSSIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

THE "Times" publishes the following telegram, dated Saturday, (Jan 6) from its St. Petersburg correspondent, commenting upon the intelligence already given regarding the movement of Russian troops to the Afghan frontier :—

It is impossible to pass over without comment the extraordinary telegram published here to-day from Tiblis, and despatched yesterday to the English and Continental press by the Russian Telegram Agency, to the effect that troops have been sent to the Afghan frontier as an experiment—simply, as this semi-official, if not absolutely official, proclamation states, because of recent rumours of disturbances in Afghanistan consequent upon the supposed death of the Ameer Abdurrahman Khan and of reports of agitation among the populations of India.

I do not know how this despatch has been translated for the information of English newspaper readers, but I give the exact meaning and purport of the Russian words, and the first thing that strikes one in perusing it is the strange and quite unprecedented reason which is given for an experimental mobilisation of troops against Afghanistan. Was it necessary for Russia to send additional troops to the Afghan frontier, even as a trial, simply on account of rumours of internal agitation in India and Afghanistan, rumours which have been over and over again contradicted from competent Anglo-Indian sources? Or was it necessary to have these rumours at all in order to make the experiment or even to refer to them as the cause of it although it may have been judged expedient to make such a movement at this particular time? No; the operation and the explanation of it are only too transparent. What has Russia to do with alleged agitations among Her Majesty's Indian subjects, or even among the subjects of the Queen-Empress's Afghan ally that she should justify a so-called experimental reinforcement of troops—in fact, a tentative action of military offence—on the Indo-Afghan frontier by reference to unauthenticated gossip concerning exclusively the internal affairs of a friendly neighbouring State? This remark applies all the more forcibly to the present case, inasmuch as the telegram in question which confirms the news contained in my telegram in the "Times" of November 14, that troops had been sent to the Kushk fortress, and also the despatch from your Vienna correspondent in the "Times" of Thursday week last—could not have been sent off from Tiblis without the official imprimatur of the military censor, the Caucasus being now under military rule, and furthermore because it was not allowed to be sent abroad from St. Petersburg before having first been scrutinised by the authorities of the Russian Foreign Office.

The number of troops sent to the front is variously estimated. In official quarters it is said there was only one battalion, other sources refer to different numbers from two battalions to two divisions and more, but this does not matter. As I have before stated troops were reported to be on the way to the new Kushk fortress, where every preparation is being made for striking at Herat more than six weeks ago. I then explained the position on this side of the north-western part of the Indian frontier and also that on the extreme north-east where unfounded rumours similar to those made use of in yesterday's telegram from Tiblis and referring to a supposed intention of expanding the Indian frontier beyond the Raskem Mountains, north of Kashmir, were sufficient to produce veiled threats of a Russian occupation of Kashgar. On the Trans-Caspian frontier I pointed out that a strong fortified position was being established as the Kushk post, the terminus of the branch railway from Mery, supplemented by a reserve of rails and all the material of a siege train to be held in readiness for a rapid advance on Herat whenever that might be considered advisable.

The capture of that once highly-rated—perhaps over-rated—strategical position could, no doubt, be easily effected, in the present conditions. The only thing is that in such an event Russia would violate the frontier which she herself has taken part with England in laying down. There could have been no definite intention of making such an advance as soon as this work on the Kushk was finished irrespective of unforeseen contingencies, but the mere conversion of this advanced post into a strong place of arms away from the beaten track of travellers along the Trans-Caspian Railway, so as to be well to the front and able to take prompt advantage of any future opportunities is sufficient in itself to account for an increase of the garrison on the Kushk without the necessity of alluding to unconfirmed rumours of agitation in Afghanistan and India. In any case, judging by what is said here of the new Kushk fortress and its armament, and considering the unfavourable opinion of the Indian frontier defences entert

HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE.

The Roumanian Minister of Public Instruction has sent a circular to the head-mistresses of all girls' schools in Roumania to the following effect: "Experiments based on science and practice having shown that stays are hurtful to health and interfere with the action of the organs of respiration, I decree that you strictly forbid the use of stays to the pupils of your establishment." A similar edict was not long ago issued by the Russian Government, with what result the "British Medical Journal," which calls attention to the fact, does not know.

No mention appears to have been made in the descriptive accounts of the recent Livingstone Exhibition in London of the pictures (and photographs of pictures) of the late Mr. Thomas Baines, F. R. G. S., who, on the recommendation of the Royal Geographical Society, was appointed artist to Livingstone Zambesi Expedition in 1858. Many of Mr. Baines's paintings which were illustrative of South African life and scenery were exhibited at the time at the Crystal and Alexandra Palaces, and also at the Dublin Exhibition. Several of them were sent to Windsor Castle for the inspection of her Majesty and the late Prince Consort, and Mr. Glover, the librarian, records the fact that he never saw the Prince more interested in anything of the kind than in these paintings. They remained at Windsor for a whole week, in the course of which the Queen took her family into the room in which they were displayed and explained them separately to each of her children.

M. Victor Goedorp, of Paris, who some time ago paid a visit to the capital of the Ethiopian Empire, contributes to the "Wide World Magazine" a very interesting account of his journey. Addis Abeba, the capital, is, he tells us, merely a vast camp of circular huts with thatched roofs, scattered without method over a space perhaps five miles square. On the summit of a mount overlooking the plain is situated the palace of the King, known as the Guebi. This is a kind of Swiss chalet, and very commonplace-looking. Red tiles from Europe have been used for the roof, whilst the walls are plainly whitewashed.

Of the Abyssinian people M. Goedorp seems to have formed a very low opinion. Anything approaching sanitation is practically unknown, consequently all sorts of dreadful diseases are rife, as also is confirmed drunkenness. They eat gluttonously of raw meat, and this hideous practice induces very painful disorders. When they are ill, the Abyssinians take but little care of themselves: they leave the cure to time, they say. It is admitted, however, that they are a brave people, seeking rather than fearing death in war. In one of the courtyards of the Guebi are ranged the guns captured at Adowa. Menelik treats these with great veneration.

The Europeans are received at Court every Sunday, when Menelik is seen seated cross-legged under a canopy of drapery supported by four poles. He gives a banquet to his guests, too. Menelik's usual dish on these occasions consists of raw meat cut into strips, and eaten with cakes seasoned with a sauce highly spiced. The Europeans are waited upon by Abyssinian slaves, who hand them cooked meat and fresh vegetables, very tolerably prepared by an expert Greek cook. When the banquet is over the curtain is drawn, and then an immense hall is revealed in which thousands of soldiers may be seen huddled together eating the national "brondo," and drinking their favourite hydromel out of cow horns.

Memories of the early Irish Land League troubles are revived by the announcement of the death of Mr. Bernard H. Becker, the well-known journalist who, in the capacity of "Daily News" Special Commissioner in the disturbed districts of Connaught and Munster, discovered the "boycotted" Captain Boycott and his wife herding sheep, and so helped to give a new word to the English language. Mr. Becker's graphic letters at this time were widely discussed in and out of Parliament and exercised a considerable influence upon public opinion. He was a prolific contributor to other journals and magazines, and was an original member of the staff of the "World," for which he wrote a large proportion of the earlier "Celebrities at Home." Some of his books, notable "Scientific London," and "Adventurous Lives," achieved a large measure of success. For many years he was a prominent and popular figure in many social and literary circles from which ill-health unfortunately necessitated his complete retirement a few years ago.

Lord Brassey has been one of the most popular of Governors, but his capacity for "falling off" has become a joke throughout Victoria. According to a Colonial young lady correspondent in "M. A. P.," he has fallen off his mount in the hunting-field, his bike in a busy throughfare, his yacht (to the danger of his life) in the bay, the steps of his carriage, and goodness knows what not. When his Excellency is late in arriving in the ballroom (which he invariably is) it is supposed he must be "falling off" something. Very often he is simply falling off to sleep after dinner at Government House when the "baton" of the bandmaster in the Town Hall is held in readiness to start the National Anthem and the feet of the ballroom trippers ache to skim in the Lancers. Though, however, the Colonials groan in spirit when he keeps them waiting an hour and longer, their loyal faces break into beaming smiles when, at length, to the stirring strains of the Anthem, his Excellency and Lady Brassey enter.

With the exception of Lord Field and the late Lord Esher, the judges who have retired during the last few years have all managed to get back to their old line of business in some form or other. Sir Edward Fry occupies himself on the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; Sir Arthur Charles is an ecclesiastical judge; Lord Justice Lopes, afterwards Lord Ludlow, died in harness as a judicial member of the House of Lords; and Sir Henry Hawkins, disguised as Lord Brampton, also sits with the Law Lords. It remains to be seen in Sir Ford North will follow these precedents. At present, however, he does not appear to have an opportunity of doing so, as he is not a member of the Privy Council or the Upper House.

Never before in the history of the world were wounded soldiers more rapidly restored to the combatant ranks. The term "wounded" will, according to the "Polyclinic," soon cease to have the fearful significance which it once had, and those coming under it will hardly be counted as "losses" when it is recognised that two-thirds may probably be back in the ranks within a fortnight. Now that it is found that to be shot through the lungs involves but little risk, and that bullet wounds of the limbs count for almost nothing, whilst those of the abdomen, the liver, and even the head are far from being necessarily fatal, it seems possible, our contemporary adds, that some return to defensive armour may be practicable. The region of the heart is the part which remains mortally vulnerable, and it may, perhaps, be found practicable to contrive a breastplate which may be worn without encumbrance and yet conduce much to the wearers security.

The frontispiece to the "Essex Review" this month is an interesting reproduction of a painting of the well-known writers for children as they appeared about the year 1790. Ann was born in 1782, and Jane a year later, but they both began literary composition at an early age, and in 1796, much against their father's wish, some of their poetry appeared in print, and at once became popular. The picture was painted by their father, Rev. Isaac Taylor, in his garden at Lavenham, Suffolk, a few years before his removal to Colchester in 1796. In this town nearly all their literary work was done, in the house in Angel-lane, now West Stockwell-street, on which a memorial tablet has now been placed. The family moved from Colchester to Ongar in 1811. A copy of the picture has recently been given by one of the Taylor family to the Corporation of Colchester, to be hung in the New Town Hall. The original is shortly to be presented to the National Portrait Gallery.

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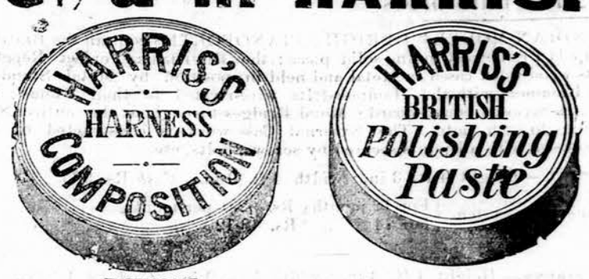

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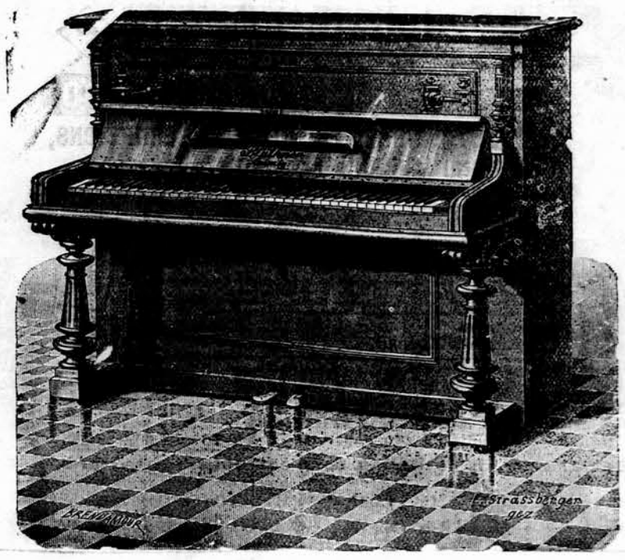

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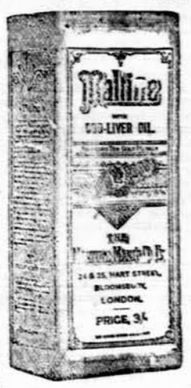

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